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Victoria sees green

Al Gore targets future leaders with climate change speech

Melanie Tromp

Former U.S. vice-president Al Gore arrived in Victoria Sept. 29 with a strong green message to match his flashy green tie.

After Gore's "almost-president" shtick as the opener, his presentation started on the same note as *An Inconvenient Truth*. Gore quoted predictions about the melting north polar ice cap and name-dropped the who's-who of ecological research. The first half-hour comprised Gore's perhaps overused rundown of the scientific evidence proving the existence of global warming, including a plethora of statistics and weather disasters as examples. Gore touched on tornadoes in New York and Mexico — tornadoes were previously unheard of in those areas — as well as British Columbia's own bout with extreme weather last winter.

"Not long ago I visited Stanley Park in Vancouver," said Gore. "I grieve along with many of you for the loss of those magnificent trees uprooted from the storms."

That sentimental discourse is typical of Gore's road-show, a 60-minute lecture on the planetary crisis that is climate change. His speech was peppered with the occasional reference to local crises including B.C.'s plight with the pine beetle in the Interior, its history with forest fires and its legacy for controversy in the timber industry.

Gore was speaking to the audience of 900 at An Afternoon with Al Gore at the Victoria Conference Centre. The seats were out of most students' price range, so there was a live-video green room reserved for UVic students and staff. The UVic Green Room contained around 400 people.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Al Gore talks climate change at the Victoria Conference Centre on Sept. 29 to a crowd of over 900 people.

Before his presentation began, Gore made a brief appearance downstairs in the UVic Green Room. He joked that organizers "decided to make the upstairs room the overflow room."

Gore walked in, put his hand over his heart and bowed to a standing ovation. He thanked the UVic crowd for their interest and actions on climate change and global warming.

"I want to say a special thank you and urge you to become even more active on this issue," said Gore. "It's the defining crisis of our time."

Gore attributed blame for the global warming crisis chiefly to modern technologies, noting that these innovations "give us such brute force, such raw power that [makes] us the bull in the china shop to create such destruction.

"We are of this Earth, whether you believe, like I do, in the process of evolution or you believe, like I do, that God has created us through the process of evolution," he said.

See Gore applauds, p. 2

UVSS, GSS mull pullout from national union

Bargaining power of larger organization of benefit to UVic students: CFS rep

Brian Linge

UVic's grad students have been circulating a petition questioning the need to be part of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) since the summer. Now undergrads have a petition of their own.

The CFS formed in 1981 to represent student unions and lobby governments on their behalf. Today, it is the largest student organization in Canada in terms of membership, representing students from more then 80 university and colleges across Canada.

Each full-time student at UVic will pay $7.64 per semester to the CFS — last year, UVic undergrads and grads paid a combined $257,522 to the CFS.

This goes toward services for students such as Travel Cuts, a travel agency partially owned by CFS Services; Studentsaver Discount Cards, which provide discounts at many businesses; International Student Identity Cards, which can provide travel discounts; and homes4students.ca, an online housing database.

UVic's Graduate Students' Society (GSS) first approached the topic in March 2007 when a committee reviewed their membership and the benefits of remaining with the CFS.

The committee found "with the exception of the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP) ... the current services provided by membership in the CFS are essentially of no demonstrable benefit and could otherwise be replaced by ... other means by the UVic GSS."

Patrick Reed, current chair of the GSS, noted, "A particular concern was the response we got from our executive attending CFS board meetings, particularly around the response to questions regarding loans to the Douglas Student Union."

According to CFS-BC chairperson Shamus Reid, CFS-BC has loaned approximately $250,000 to the Douglas Students' Union (DSU) of Douglas College, and deferred $50,000 in handbook fees. Reid said the DSU has repaid $140,000 of that, adding that the loan is a mortgage covered by DSU property.

"The CFS provincial chapters have a tendency of stepping in when something really bad happens, helping [student unions] maintain their obligations to students at a university," said GSS chair Reed.

"Our problem was that this happens behind closed doors — we had people on the board who were supposed to be responsible for this. Later it was retroactively approved by the executive council. There was a motion passed [by the GSS] to bring a motion to the [CFS-BC board] about the story of these loans and our executive there was harassed by the board."

Former GSS chair Tayfun Ince started the petition for the graduate students. George Robinson, who ran unsuccessfully for chair of the

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Gore applauds Campbell's carbon-neutral promise

The politician-turned-activist said Western Canada is the place for this collaborative thinking to start.

"I want to express appreciation for what is being done in B.C. and Victoria," said Gore, making reference to a Sept. 28 promise made by Gordon Campbell to render all public sector organizations, including schools and Crown corporations, as carbon neutral by 2010. "[I want to] celebrate the fact that progress has happened, [although] my country and yours still have directors at the national level that are not living up to the responsibility they have."

Federal statistics released on Oct. 1 show that Canada's greenhouse gas emission levels have sustained themselves at record highs, weighing in at 747 million tonnes in both 2004 and 2005. This number is currently 32.7 per cent above Canada's targeted commitment to the Kyoto Protocol. Canada's oath is binding as of January 2008 and has obligated the country to reduce emission levels by six percentage points below average numbers from 1990.

According to Statistics Canada, B.C. residents produce approximately 65 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year, making them the fifth-worst offenders in the country. Campbell pledged to make B.C. the first province in Canada to cap emissions under a legal structure, a strategy similar to Gore's own answer to the environment's most glaring dilemma.

Gore is an advocate for reducing income tax and employment taxes, paired with nouveau CO2 taxes for businesses, noting that politicians in his home country believe such reformation is impossible despite a similar policy's successful application in both Sweden and Norway.

The eco-awareness figurehead also discussed the Montreal Protocol, an international agreement that phased out the production of substances believed to deplete the planet's ozone layer beginning in the late '80s.

"The experts said [the Protocol] would cause economic haphazardry — they were wrong," Gore said. "There is much money to be made in going green."

The Montreal Protocol celebrated its 20th anniversary on Sept. 16.

"We have to get over our paralysis and denial and moral cowardice," said Gore, in reference to what he says is the lack of moral purpose in modernity. "There have been moments in history when a single generation has stood at the gate."

"There's an old African proverb that says, 'If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.' We have to go far ... quickly."

Gore advocated taking a page from the Montreal Protocol's legacy by designing a "global Marshall Plan" that partners core countries with periphery nations. Social policy and global treaties play key roles in this strategy for Gore, who says environmental reform has to be a matter of law.

The Gore family home in Tennessee has achieved gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification with its 33 solar panels, geothermal heating and efficient windows and light bulbs. He said his family will continue their carbon-neutral lifestyle.

"I think the most important thing that Gore has done is raise the issue in the public consciousness like nobody else has been able to do before," UVic President David Turpin told the Martlet. "By focusing the public attention on [greenhouse gas] emissions and climate change, he is mobilizing the public and as a result governments are ... putting in place policies and programs related to climate change."

Much of Gore's address was geared toward the students downstairs, and Turpin agreed with this focus on the "future leaders of the world."

"Universities provide a forum for individuals to make their case; the role of the university is to ensure faculty and students have a place to study issues and speak out on them," said Turpin.

- files from Tim Lindsay

Continued from p. 1

Petition needs 1,700 signatures

UVic Students' Society (UVSS) and is serving a third term as a UVic senator, is organizing the petition for undergraduates.

"I was first introduced to the CFS by Mike Waters, who ran for chairperson two years ago, and ran on a campaign to review the membership in the CFS," Robinson said. "He got a lot of negative feedback from that and I was wondering where it came from."

Robinson was influenced to start the undergraduate petition by the research done by the GSS.

"Every UVic student pays $15 a year, and for that $15 I'm not convinced we are getting adequate value. A lot of the services we receive we can get by using our regular student card," he said.

Robinson has to gather approximately 1,700 signatures for the petition to go forward and to hold a referendum on the issue, which would occur sometime in late March or early April.

Caitlin Meggs, UVSS director of academics and representative to the CFS, emphasized the importance of a large organization to lobby for change. "If there wasn't a coalesced body there wouldn't be enough of a voice," Meggs said.

JENNIIFER ZHOU PHOTO

George Robinson wants out of the Canadian Federation of Students.

She highlighted that it is not just immediate benefits for students that the CFS fights for. "On a local level we do a lot of advocacy and campaigns that you can be a part of."

She said one example is adult basic education, a campaign to have high school completion courses be free for adults who never graduated. The B.C. government recently announced that it would offer free adult basic education.

"If not everyone agrees with [a CFS decision], I think that's something that should come up," Meggs said. "The beauty of the CFS is that it is democratic."

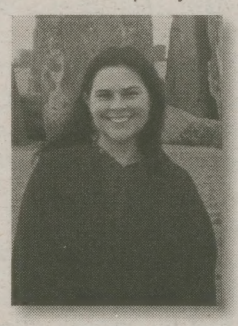
For instance, Meggs noted that the UVSS opted out of participating in the CFS tuition campaign this year. "We don't have to do everything the CFS says," Meggs said. "Some campaigns might not be applicable here."

Tickets on Sale Now!

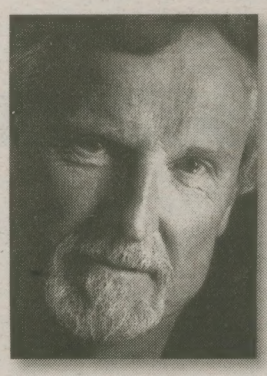
Naomi Klein
THIS SATURDAY! October 6, 7:30 pm
With her new book, ***The Shock Doctrine,*** **Naomi Klein** (No Logo) looks at the way the corporate culture of the United States has conquered the world through the exploitation of disaster-struck people and nations. The Shock Doctrine is a breathtaking, eye-opening examination of the way the world really works, and the true cost of democracy.

Kiran Desai is an international literary superstar; her second novel, ***The Inheritance of Loss*** (Penguin) was awarded the Booker Prize in 2006 and has been on various bestseller lists ever since. Bolen Books is delighted to be hosting the Victoria debut of such a gifted young writer with an incredible early success matched only by the promise of her future career.

Diana Gabaldon
Tuesday October 23, 7:30 pm
One of Victoria's favourite authors returns! Always a crowd pleasing favourite, Bolen Books is excited to see the return of **Diana Gabaldon.** With ***Lord John and the Brotherhood of the Blade,*** her much-anticipated new novel, Gabaldon expertly weaves together the strands of both Lord John Grey's secret and public lives. Do not miss your chance to spend an evening with one of North America's most entertaining storytellers.



Richard B. Wright and Kiran Desai
Monday October 15, 7:30 pm
The best writing from around the world! One of Canada's most highly regarded writers, Giller Prize winner **Richard B. Wright** (Clara Callan) returns with ***October,*** a novel sure to find its way onto this fall's prize shortlists and into his reader's hearts.



These events will be held at the Alix Goolden Performance Hall, 907 Pandora Ave. Tickets $10 each (cash only please!) at Bolen Books. Each ticket offers $5 off the cover price of the author's new book!

Coming up at Bolen Books

Charles de Lint
Tuesday October 9, 7 pm

Charles de Lint, one of the most beloved writers of our time, returns to Bolen Books with his new novel ***Little (Grrl) Lost.*** The story begins when 14-year-old TJ and her family are forced to move to the suburbs from their farm, leaving everything TJ knows and loves behind. She becomes friends, however, with Elizabeth, a "Little", a six-inch-tall punked out teen with an attitude.

Jack Whyte
Saturday October 13, 7 pm

With ***Standard of Honor,*** **Jack Whyte** returns to the world of the Knights Templar, and to Bolen Books for a very special event to mark the 700th anniversary of the massacre of the Templars! Standard of Honor picks up where Knights of the Black and White left off, with three members of the St. Clair family embroiled in battle, imperiled by circumstances, and unsure of their enemies, and their friends.

Kathy Reichs
Sunday October 21, 7 pm

Ten years ago, Bolen Books was thrilled to host a first-time writer. The book? Deja Dead. The author? **Kathy Reichs.** Now, a decade later Kathy Reichs is a household name, a superstar in the mystery field, and Deja Dead forms the inspiration for the TV series Bones. We are delighted to be hosting Kathy again this fall, this time for her new Temperance Brennan novel ***Bones to Ashes.*** Come early - this event promises to be one of the highlights of the fall season!

Rough Drafts
Tuesday October 30, 7 pm
Join Bolen Books tonight as we take a peek behind the curtains of the writing life as three of Victoria's finest writers read from unpublished material and works-in-progress and answer questions about the creative process. **Robert J. Wiersema, John Gould and Bill Gaston** will take the stage in an unprecedented literary event for Victoria.

Bret (The Hitman) Hart
Saturday November 3, 2 pm

A Legend in the world of Sports Entertainment **Bret Hart** presents ***Hitman: My Real Life in the Cartoon World of Wrestling,*** an honest, perceptive and often startling account of his life in and out the the pro wrestling ring. Sports fans this is your chance to finally meet 'The best there is, the best there was and the best there ever will be'. BOOK SIGNING ONLY. NO MEMORABILIA, PLEASE.

Pick up your copy of our complete Fall Events schedule, available starting Friday September 14 at Bolen Books!

Bolen Books in Hillside Center
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Students deceived in overseas jobs

Despite possible closure of 300 schools, company that recruits Canadian teachers from universities still hiring

David Jobson

Nova Group of Japan, the largest private language school in Japan, has encountered serious financial and legal problems. But that hasn't stopped the company from hiring Canadian students to teach in Japan.

Nova — the largest employer of migrant workers in Japan, with more than 5,000 overseas teachers at over 900 schools — has faced a series of government actions and court decisions against its operations over the past two years. The result has been employees going unpaid and the possibility of 300 schools closing by October 2007. Nova employs 668 Canadians, according to Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Bernard Nguyen.

"We already have teachers who were not paid, and the summer bonus for staff was not paid. Half the teachers were paid four days late," said deputy secretary general Louis Carlet of the National Union of General Workers Tokyo South which represents hundreds of unionized Nova teachers. "And Nova has apparently issued an order not to pay teachers who quit."

The corporation was first hit by scandal in 2005 when the Social Insurance Agency of Japan launched a government probe against Nova for selling teachers private accident insurance in lieu of enrolling employees into the Japanese government's mandatory National Health Insurance Program.

Then in April 2007, the Supreme Court of Japan ruled that Nova's student tuition refund policy was invalid and in violation of commercial transaction laws. This led to Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry imposing a temporary six-month ban in June 2007 against Nova from signing up any long-term students. Days later, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare cancelled its government contracts with Nova which had earned the corporation over $16 million since 1999.

However, even before the government penalties were imposed, Nova had reported a $25-million loss in operating profits for fiscal 2006 and that student enrolment would be 19.2 per cent less in September 2007 than in September 2006.

With the ship sinking, Nova stopped paying the rent on some teachers' housing.

"Many landlords are beginning court proceedings against Nova," said Carlet. "We've had Nova employees say that they've received apartment eviction notices for apartments that Nova is supposed to be paying rent on."

> "We just don't have the resources or ability to do pre-screening ahead of time for any employers."
>
> *– Jennifer Margison, Career Services manager*

However, Nova was still advertising recruitment sessions in Canada on the Workopolis website as recently as Aug. 28.

Despite the health insurance scandal of 2005, many Canadian universities continued to allow Nova to recruit on campus, including UVic. UVic Career Services confirmed that Nova had been recruiting last year and said it's the student's responsibility to know whether the companies on their website are on the rocks or obeying the law.

"We just don't have the resources or ability to do pre-screening ahead of time for any employers," said Career Services manager Jennifer Margison. "As long as the conditions of the employment, as the information is provided to us, seems reasonable ... then basically we will post it."

She said Career Services are unaware of employment standards oversees.

"If it's overseas, those [laws] are all different, and we really don't know what the standards are in those locations," she said.

Margison also said that Career Services reacts to student complaints but does not monitor employers. She suggested that students check the National Union of General Workers website or the General Union's website for information on Nova Group.

Career Services is a member of the Canadaian Association of Career Educators and Employers (CACEE) and abides by that organization's ethics policies. Anne Markey, CACEE executive director, said the policy has "not had to do with companies going bankrupt previously, [but that could change]."

However, the policy of university career centres is a concern to one overseas recruiter in B.C.

"When we first started seven years ago, many of the career centres were happy with any overseas opportunity. Now, career centres are taking more of a responsible approach to what they are presenting their students," said Jeff Strachan of Footprints Recruiting. "Recruiters who don't have licences should be shut down because there are certain standards in B.C. that employment agencies must be compliant with."

But Margison said that would prevent international recruiting. "I don't think any of the international employers would be registered [employment agents]," she said.

Another challenge to those considering work overseas is that the B.C. Employment Standards Act does not protect interviewees from dishonest overseas recruiters. There is no legislation that would allow a person to take legal action against Nova if they lied about work conditions or the financial situation of the company.

Pat Cullinane, director of employment standards with the B.C. Ministry of Labour, explained, "If you have someone recruiting for out-of-province work, [misrepresenting the terms of employment] is not likely to be governed by the Employment Standards Act."

"I think it is terrible teachers will spend thousands of dollars coming over to Japan, and then work for a month and not get paid," said Carlet. "Nova will either officially go bankrupt or just kind of let things fall apart and not officially declare bankruptcy — which would be even worse for teachers."

Nova Group Canada Branch Manager, Colette Neville, refused to comment.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

CORRECTION

The Martlet erroneously reported Sept. 27 that the UVic Students' Society annual general meeting will be held Oct. 18. In fact, the meeting has been postponed until Oct. 25.

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Bell proposes third cell tower on campus

Genevieve Young

The UVic community and nearby residents have until Oct. 8 to weigh in on a new proposal to build a fourth cellphone tower on campus.

UVic was approached by the Cadboro Bay Residents Association, Cadboro Bay Business Improvement Association and Bell Mobility with a proposal to install a 30-metre high cellphone tower on campus. It would be tucked away in the trees, in the southeast corner of campus near University House 4.

According to Bell, the proposed tower would improve cell coverage and Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommuications (CREST) in the Cadboro Bay and Ten Mile area. Eric Dahli of the Cadboro Bay Residents Association said the focus of the tower would be "to improve communication, but the primary focus is safety."

"The university as part of the agreement would be compensated for the use of the land," said UVic director of planning and sustainability Neil Connelly in an e-mail. However, UVic media relations manager Patty Pitts said a the university hasn't discussed how signficant the compensation will be.

Two meetings took place to discuss the tower on Sept. 26 at UVic and Sept. 27 in Cadboro Bay. Only 15 people attended the UVic meeting, while 25 attending the second open house.

Jeff Meermand, Bell Mobility spokesperson, said that Bell will continue to take feedback and concerns from interested parties until Oct. 8. Feedback can be directed to Connelly at UVic, or Chad Marlatt at Bell by e-mailing chad.marlatt@bell.ca.

"The residents in the area are mixed," Meermand said, noting that similar towers are typically painted to fit with the surroundings and resemble hydro poles.

This isn't the first time this type of tower has been proposed in the area. In 1991, a proposal to put up a similar tower near Cadboro Bay Road and Penrhyn Street was opposed by due to "visual pollution." According to Bell Mobility, UVic's higher ground makes the new location ideal, though the 1991 proposal would have put the tower right beside campus grounds.

The tower would improve cellphone service in the Cadboro Bay area, but Connelly said it would not improve reception on campus. There are already three other cellphone towers on campus, attached to the side of the UVic stadium — one for Telus, one for Rogers and one for Bell, the last of which was built in 1995.

The health effects of yet another cellphone tower are not clear, as the safety of long-term exposure to cellphones and other wireless devices is currently being debated.

On Sept. 16, the Valhalla Committee for Environmental Health submitted a report outlining cell phone hazards to the New Denver, B.C. mayor and council. An August study by scientists and doctors from the U.S., Sweden, Denmark, Austria, China and the United Kingdom, titled the BioInitiative Report, stated, "There is enough evidence of increased risk of brain tumors to warrant intervention with respect to [cellphone and wireless device] use ... good public health policy requires preventative action."

However, Meermand said Bell's towers meet Health Canada's safety code that governs cell sites.

"Output is often thousands of times less than the allowable limits, which are among the strictest in the world," he said.

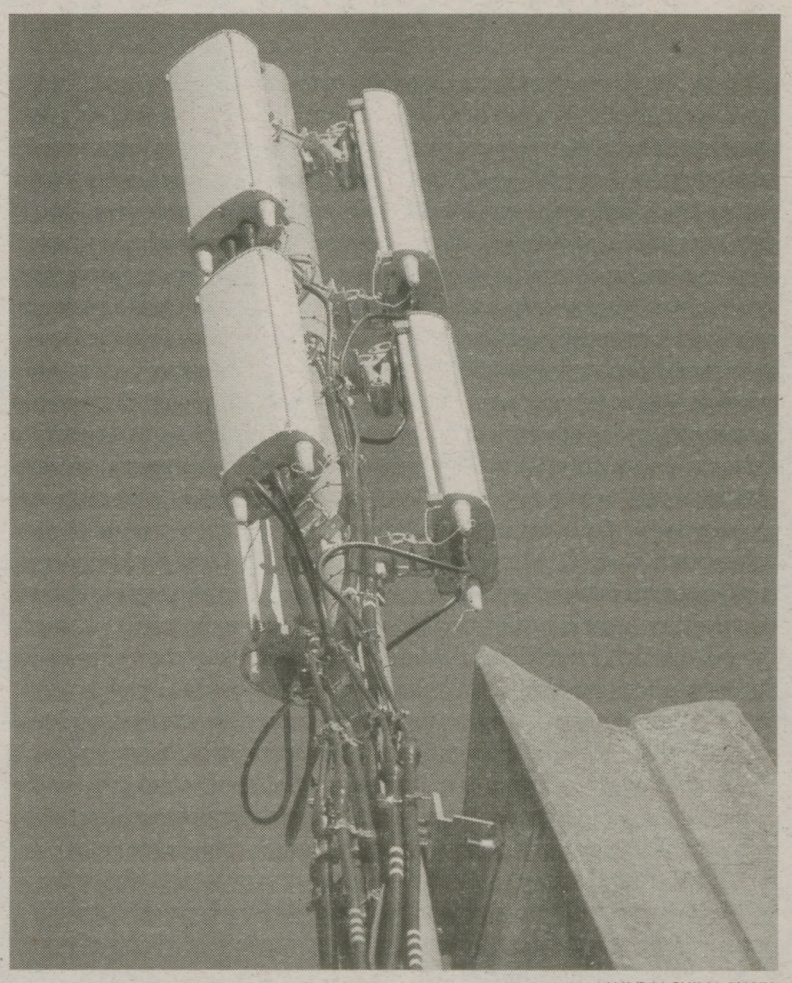
Meermand added the tower would remove the need for other service providers to build in the area, as it would serve Bell Mobility as well as Telus Mobility and Rogers cell customers.

Connelly said no additional meetings on the proposed tower are planned.

"The feedback on the proposal will be forwarded to the university administration to consider," he said.

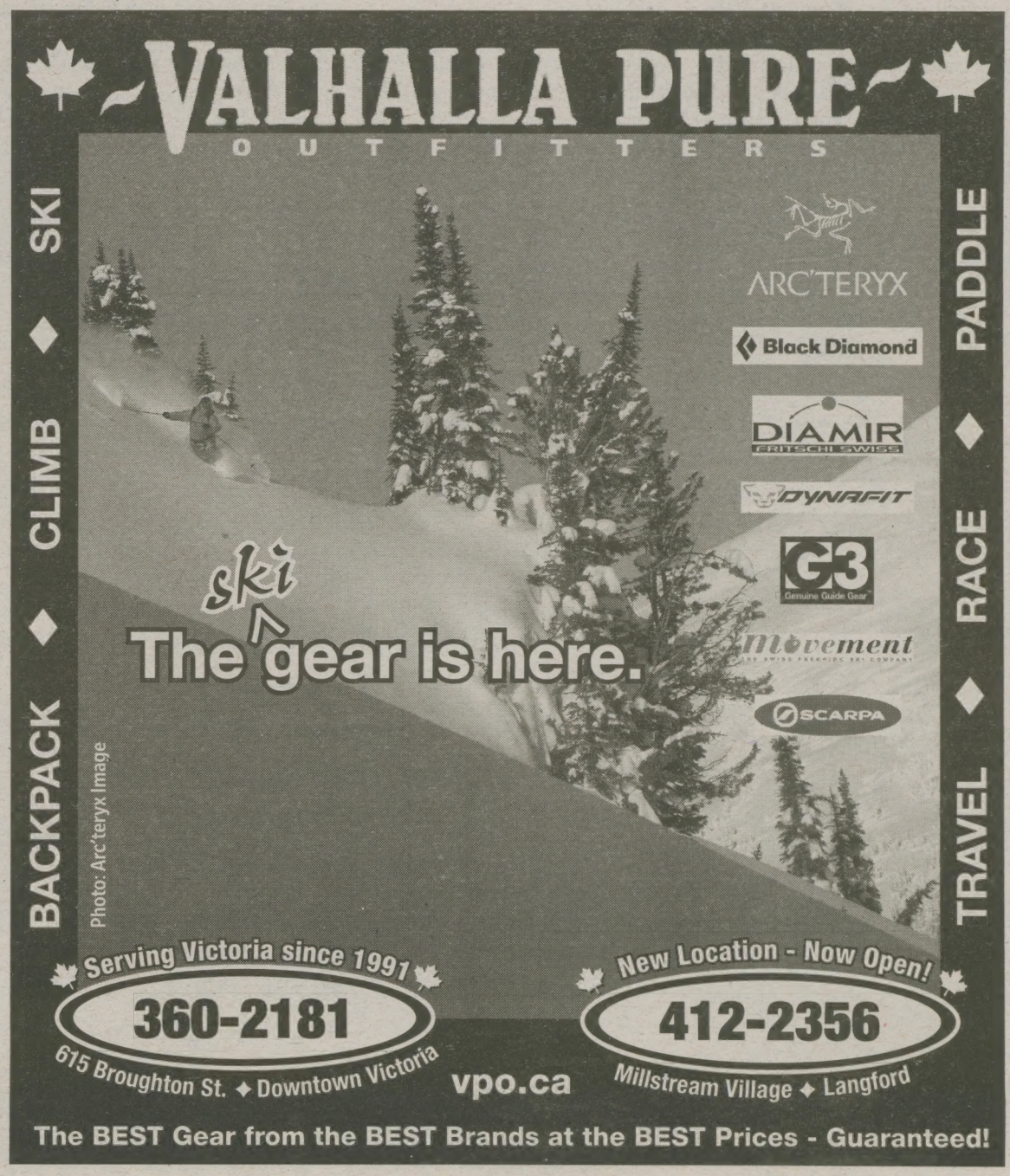
Meermand expects to hear a decision from the university within one month.

- files from Rosemary Westwood



NAVRAJ CHIMA PHOTO

A proposed cell tower by Bell would be in addition to the tower pictured above and a second towewhich are both on top of Centennial Stadium.



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NATIONAL NEWS

Protests seek change in Burma

William Wolfe-Wylie
CUP NATIONAL BUREAU CHIEF

TORONTO (CUP) — Demonstrators in Toronto expressed their support for ongoing pro-democracy demonstrators in Burma. Now, they say, they need to send their message inside the isolated South Asian country, also called Myanmar.

At the Sept. 27 demonstration at Toronto City Hall, organizers said that they need to let Burmese citizens know they have international support.

Ulla Laidlaw graduated from the University of Guelph in 2006 and spent the following year living along the Thailand-Burma border. She became involved in the pro-democracy movement then and is still in contact with many of the friends she made.

"We're trying to develop some initiatives to get the support inside Burma," she said, noting that a number of people are distributing flyers and pamphlets in Burma's urban centres, encouraging demonstrations to continue.

"We're thinking about having photos of our rallies and sending them in that way," Laidlaw said. "We don't just want to write the general to pressure the general, we want to write to the people to tell them that the world is supporting them."

The advent of the Internet and global communications, said one organizer, is what is making this demonstration so different from those that have preceded it.

Paul Copeland founded the Toronto to Burma Roundtable, an advocacy group, in 1990. He said there are significant differences between the current demonstrations in Burma and the 1988 protests where the military killed more than 3,000 civilians.

"One of the reasons the movement is so strong this time is because the images are coming out," said Copeland, arguing that images need to be sent back to show the international support.

"If they know that there's international support for them, it helps give them courage to continue on. It's going to take huge courage for them to continue the demonstration."

Other demonstrators conceptualized the protest differently.

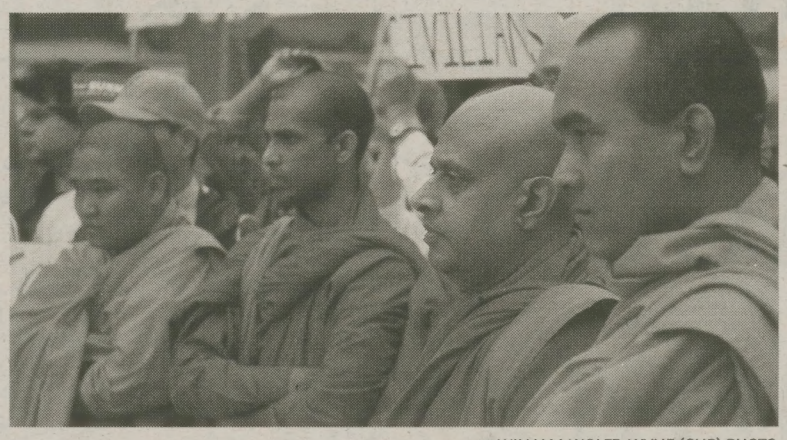
NDP member of Parliament Olivia Chow spoke to demonstrators, calling upon Canada to divest from any company that supports Burma's military rulers.

"Put pressure on the Canadian government to say to places like China and India to stop shipping arms and mediate," she said into a megaphone. She also called upon Canadian mining companies to stop operations in Burma.

Copeland, however, said that with the Canadian government's lacklustre track record on Burma, it's up to the private sector to make a difference.

"The Canadian government has been verbally great and actively useless," he said, noting that Canada's economic sanctions are non-existent while the U.S. continues to strengthen theirs.

Copeland said that Canada's universities, with their investment power, have an ability to influence the outcome of the demonstrations. He cited a protest against Pepsi in the early 1990s that resulted in that company's operations being removed from Burma.



WILLIAM WOLFE-WYLIE (CUP) PHOTO

Buddhist monks stand at rally in Toronto on Sept. 27, in support of ongoing pro-democracy demonstrations in Burma.

"That was ultimately hugely successful but it only happened when Pepsi lost a couple of contracts at universities," Copeland said.

Copeland also pointed to the successes of consumer boycotts in overthrowing South African apartheid.

But for now, as the military government continues to rattle its sabres, the majority of demonstrators simply hoped to minimize bloodshed.

"Budhhism teaches us peace. Buddha never teaches to kill others. Burma is a Buddhist country," said one Buddhist monk at the rally. "Please wake up and try to understand and forgive each other."

Copeland agreed that this is really the only way forward. Simply overthrowing the military rulers will not work, he said.

"The question is what kind of transition can they arrange," he said. "If the less senior members of the military actually get rid of the thugs who are there, and start having some dialogue with the National League for Democracy, they could very well form some kind of interim government."

Copeland said that Aung San Suu Kyi, the winner of the 1990 election who has been under house arrest for 12 of the past 18 years, has enough support to lead the country.

"She is a sufficiently strong and popular figure that she, I think, could hold the country together," Copeland said. "Having the military on side would actually be a good idea."

In the meantime, Canadians need to show demonstrators in Burma the world is standing with them.

"From filming, e-mailing, and letting them know," Chow said. "They will feel the solidarity."

Timeline of Events

1962 — A military coup marks the start of military rule.

1988 — Pro-democracy movement, much the same as that currently underway, crushed when the military government kills upward of 3,000 civilian protestors.

1989 — Military government changes the country's name from Burma to Myanmar. Ever since, confusion has reigned in many areas as to how to refer to the country. Calling the country Burma has become a way of showing dissent to the military rulers.

1990 — Aung San Suu Kyi wins an election, but incumbents refuse to relinquish the government. She has been under house arrest for 12 of the past 18 years.

Sept. 17, 2007 — Demonstrations begin and have been staged daily, led by Burma's revered monks, to demand democratic freedom, economic reform and the release of political activists.

Sept. 27 — Military cracks down on protest, opening fire on protestors in Rangoon, Burma's largest city, killing at least 10 and injuring 11. According to witnesses, hunderds of monks and protestors are arrested.

Sept. 29 — UN envoy sent to Burma to negotiate and discuss situation makes it clear that Suu Kyi must be part of the discussion.

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EDITORIAL

A new chance at choice

UVic students will never see eye to eye on everything. That has been made crystal clear by the ongoing debate over whether or not to ban the Canadian Forces from recruiting in the Student Union Building.

But while the debate has highlighted some deep divides between students, it has also revealed there is a value virtually all students share — democracy.

Students on all sides of the military recruitment issue seem to be in favour of direct democracy — giving all students a chance to vote on what is an important and contentious issue. That vote will happen at an Oct. 25 annual general meeting of the UVic Students' Society (UVSS). People from both sides of the debate seem to agree that bringing the issue directly to students is in our students' society's best interests.

With this newfound appetite for direct democracy, UVic students should be excited about the possibility of a referendum next spring on another topic — whether or not to separate from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Petitions are circulating right now to gather signatures in order to hold a referendum on the issue later this year. If enough signatures are gathered, all students will be able to vote on whether or not to remain a member of the CFS. Ten per cent of grad students have already signed the Graduate Students' Society's petition and will thus be able to vote on the issue in a spring referendum. UVic undergrads need more than 1,700 signatures in order to have their own referendum.

Like the potential military ban, CFS membership is a contentious issue. Proponents highlight the many student services that the CFS offers and the strength in numbers used for lobbying, while opponents note that CFS fees make postsecondary education expensive and incur costs that may not benefit UVic students. But that's a discussion for another day.

What's important when considering a referendum is that it will allow for debate on a controversial topic. As with any debate, it will highlight issues and give students a greater understanding of what CFS membership entails to allow us to make up our own minds. Students in favour of the CFS lament that students don't know enough about the good the federation does — debate will educate students on this. Students on the other side complain that if we knew about recent CFS "scandals," we'd be upset. A referendum will help both sides because they're both in favour of having people understand the issues.

Furthermore, a referendum would give all students a voice on an issue that directly affects them — we all pay membership fees to the CFS. Yes, undergraduate students voted in a democratic election to join the CFS in the first place, but that was 22 years ago. That vote was legitimate and reflected the wishes of students at the time, but we re-evaluate our provincial and federal governments with elections at least every four years, so after waiting 22 years it's time to examine our current standing with the CFS.

When a petition on whether or not to hold a referendum is being circulated, it's easy to get caught up in the issue itself. It's easy to think that a signature on the petition is a signature against the CFS. It's not.

A signature on the petition is a signature in favour of democracy. It's a signature in favour of healthy debate and becoming educated on an important issue. It's a signature that shows confidence in our ability to make our own choices.

It's one of the few things both sides should be able to agree on.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 12:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

T-BIRD
THE VIKES ARE THE BEST TEAM EVER! I'M SO INTIMIDATED BECAUSE I'M A WIMPY BIRD. I'M SCARED & HAVE BAD DREAMS ABOUT THIS....
Booooooo! I'M A LOST LITTLE DOG!
McFOG
IT'S A HARD DAY FOR'S VIKE'S RIVALS

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

LETTERS

Comrie speaks out

Publishing that I stated students are ignorant about the issues (No right to choose, Sept. 20) is false — I never said that.

The comment that I was actually quoted for was a response to a comment made, stating that it was inappropriate for the Board to make "political decisions." I was explaining how, since we are in a representative democracy, we are here to make political decisions based upon the facts that are presented. It is appalling that this meeting was reported out of context.

David Karp's article is a contradiction based on the Statement of Purpose outlined by the Martlet, which reads "to cover issues and events fairly and accurately."

I encourage democracy and freedom of speech, so if students are interested in this issue and would like a say I encourage them to attend board meetings and hear my comments accurately.

- Christine Comrie, UVSS director-at-large

Ban insults students' intelligence

When I read the headline that the UVSS had banned military representatives from the SUB (No right to choose, Sept. 20), initially I laughed — this is just the latest in a series of unfortunate events involving "our" students' society.

But I was appalled when I read this decision was made ostensibly in the best interests of an uninformed and gullible student population. What right does the UVSS have to make such value-based decisions for us? Why should their opinions about the Canadian military trump ours?

The major impact of this decision (which was supported by only seven out of UVSS' 20 board members) is that students will no longer be able to obtain information about employment with the military at the Career Fair this spring. Even disregarding the assumption that military service in this country necessarily entails the defence of neocolonialism and human rights violations, this ban is an affront to the intelligence of UVic students and to their right to make their own decisions about controversial matters of opinion. It is a disgrace that our student fees continue to subsidize this circus, which concerns itself more with inappropriate political mandates than with students' welfare.

- Kerry Thompson, UVic student

Educate, don't ban

Tim Fournier's misguided attempt to sully the Canadian Forces by claiming that they use depleted uranium pales in comparison to the regrettable attitude of director-at-large Christine Comrie, who asserted that high levels of student ignorance regarding military operations justifies the removal of the Canadian Forces from campus activities entirely (No right to choose, Sept. 20).

On behalf of many other students, I express my indignation and irritation with Comrie's viewpoint. Would it not be more befitting of a university campus to target student ignorance by offering seminars and workshops on the structure and activities of the Canadian Forces than to simply eliminate any controversy by acting as though it did not exist? If the university is to foster an environment of unbiased and objective learning, how dare you or I censor its content? In addition, Anna Planedin, it seems to me that comparing military recruitment to the selling of cigarettes is as much a disrespectful comparison as it is embarrassingly incorrect.

- Natasha Taschuk, UVic student

No wonder few students vote

I trust nobody would deny that opposition to the war in Afghanistan is now UVSS policy. I am happy to pay for a student union that provides services for students, such as funds for course unions and the SUB, and acts as a lobby group on education policy. But I don't want the UVSS to enter into other areas of politics, because the fact that I am a student has no bearing on my views about political issues such as the war in Afghanistan.

How can the board of directors represent the political views of students when it is elected by only a tenth of them in campaigns that focus on local policy?

I don't mind the UVSS having general statements of values. But if the board wants to rule against an organization for violating them, a representative of that organization should have a chance to defend it. And the idea that what recruiters (or any other group) have to say is so dangerous that the board must protect us from it is both arrogant and absurd.

Students opposed to the war in Afghanistan have ample opportunities to express their views, using UVic buildings and UVSS money. Yet they are trying to shut out opposing views from campus, as if they think that the truth is not powerful enough. If these are the kind of student politicians we get, no wonder so few students vote.

- Sean Manning, UVic student

Stay within your scope

I am deeply disappointed in the decision by the UVSS to ban the military from recruiting at the SUB (No right to choose, Sept. 20). I do not 100 per cent support every action taken by the military, our politicians, business people and ordinary people but I feel that the UVSS' actions to single out the military, which is a very important institution within our society, is arrogant and outside your scope.

The UVSS exists to "organize and bring together students on a democratic, cooperative basis to advance students' interests.

Continued on facing page

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged?
Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

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THE HAPPY HERETIC

Good deeds don't reflect creeds

Derek Madson

I would like to thank Callie Perry (Religion helps those in need, Sept. 27) for a respectable — if rather cliché — response to my column.

Anti-theists assert that religion is not merely false, but that it does considerable harm. This claim does not entail that individuals or groups that are part of a religion are incapable of doing good works. Rather, we may only judge the effects of a creed by examining the net consequences that result from the teachings directly. Scientists call this controlling for extraneous variables.

Perry dusts off the tired old argument that religious people do good things, therefore religion is good. This is a ridiculous non sequitur. The good works done by religions and religious people are often done in spite of — or even in direct contradiction to — the explicit teachings of the creed in question.

Of course religious people and organizations have done wonderful things. So what? Perry must show that the actions explicitly derive from the teachings of the creed itself. Perhaps an example will help. Oskar Schindler was a member of the Nazi party and saved 1,100 innocent Jews from the Holocaust. Should we therefore conclude that the ideology of Nazism is good because of the actions of this man? Or should we judge the ideology on the basis of a broad, balanced examination of actions that have consequences derived from Nazi principles? Clearly Schindler did not save Jews by following Nazi ideology, therefore Nazism ought not get the credit.

Similarly, religion is only entitled to credit or blame for actions taken as a direct consequence of its teachings. It's pointless to show that witch burnings, pogroms, genocide, misogyny, "homo-cide," jihad, and inquisitions derive explicitly from the holy books. It is somewhat more challenging to ignore these many barbarous passages and derive pro-social teachings from scripture. To do so requires the intellectually fraudulent skills of a used car salesman, selectively rejecting portions of the infallible "Word of God" while accepting others.

Rejecting the genocidal barbarity in Leviticus and Deuteronomy reveals the reader as a better judge of morality than God, which puts the lie to the claim that morality comes from religion. Clearly the good deeds described by Perry originate from a deeper well of humanity.

Derek Madson is founding president of the UVic Carpe Diem Club.

LETTERS

Continued from facing page

To this end, [the UVSS] provides money-saving services, events to educate and enhance your university experience and work on campaigns of importance to students. Regardless of which faculty you are in, or what year you are in, [the UVSS] is here to work for you."

The UVSS needs to stick to what it is good at and what students expect from you: provide access to services (pub, restaurants, movie theatre, etc), improve university life (affordable U-pass, bookstore, and club access) and leave it to students to decide for themselves who they want to speak to and where they want to work.

Actions like these are one way to alienate alumni from ever being potential financial donors to your organization.

- Jaime Berntson, UVic alumnus

Ban defeats point of university

Sadness quickly gave way to outrage this morning as I read in the Globe and Mail about the UVSS decision to ban the Canadian Forces from the job fair held in the Student Union Building. While I have no doubt that members of the UVSS mean well, the abuse of their positions to satisfy politics at the expense of free speech and a fair exchange of ideas makes a mockery of the very principles and ideals of the university.

It is shocking to read the justification offered by UVSS members, for instance, that "we are violating [the Geneva Convention]. It doesn't take a legal expert to figure that out." Given the draconian nature of the ban, surely a "legal expert" might provide more compelling evidence than the opinions of members who "consider [themselves] well-read on the situation in Afghanistan."

Finally, it embarrassed me to read that director-at-large Christine Comrie felt the need to "make decisions for students" who "don't know about the facts." Surely, the very point of a proper university is to provide an environment where any number of "facts" can be presented and individuals can be left to draw theirown conclusions. Decisions made by small cadres of individuals in positions of power is anathema to the very concept of a free and open university and is a black mark against UVic. I am saddened and embarrassed by the small-mindedness of students who would injure the foundation of their community to make a political point, and I encourage them to rethink their position in light of the damage this issue has done to UVic's integrity and reputation.

There are many valid reasons to argue against the war in Afghanistan and the "militarization of Canada," and an open and frank debate on these issues should certainly take place on campus. Nonetheless, whether used for progressive or reactionary politics, limitations on free speech and access to ideas is unacceptable and undermines the university community.

- Rob Annan, UVic alumnus

Ban patronizes students

I don't know where to begin with what is wrong with the UVSS decision to ban the military from the SUB (No right to choose, Sept, 20).

I spent four years as an army reservist when I did my undergraduate degree. As a result, instead of drowning in debt when I graduated I had money in the bank. I'm not encouraging people to go sign up, but it isn't hard to see why at least some students might feel the military is something they would be interested in. The UVSS board feels confident, however, that these students are too stupid to make decisions about their careers themselves and need to be protected from potential job offers by their benign wisdom.

The military is limited to a little booth at the annual career fair where recruiters meekly hand out flyers to passers-by who express interest. Somehow in the minds of the majority of the UVSS board of directors, this creates a massive information imbalance which must be remedied by completely kicking them off campus, even if that means denying students access to information on career opportunities. This arrogance and irrationality is appalling, but I applaud the members of the board who had the sense to vote against this flawed policy.

- Sean McGinty, UVic student

Opponents got argument wrong

While the question of whether or not military recruiters should be allowed in student space on campus (No right to choose, Sept. 20) is one that should be openly debated, David Karp's inflammatory headline, as well as the logic of some of those who oppose the ban, is at times a bit baffling.

Casting the issue as a rational person's right to their freedom of choice seems weak.

The headline — and the entire "right to choose" argument — seems to suggest that I need a military spokesperson in the SUB on career day in order to be aware of my right to enlist in the military.

Furthermore, the UVSS doesn't violate our freedom or insult our intelligence when it makes ethical decisions about who should and should not be allowed to recruit UVic students on campus.

If anyone wishes to argue against UVSS decision, the arguement should be based on the claim that the ban is unethical, rather than on the grounds of personal freedom or slippery slopes, which clearly don't stand up to close scrutiny.

- David Newberry, UVic student

We should have right to choose

I may not agree with the Canadian military's tactics with regard to overseas conflict or even the institution of the Canadian military. However, I defend their right to maintain a presence on campus.

I find it disgusting that an organization such as the UVSS, which I pay into, denies me the basic freedom of choice (No right to choose, Sept. 20). The act of banning a group from campus because a few UVSS representatives have personal biases tells me that the UVSS has too much decision-making power. Whatever happened to healthy dissent in the form of newspaper articles and student-led protests?

Discussion and awareness are the keys to ending violence in our world. The statement that "it is important to ban the military from recruiting because some students are ignorant about the issues" is wrong. My suggestion to the UVSS is that next time they pass a motion which has the potential to infringe on student's' rights, they consult the student body via a referendum as the first step. Even if voter apathy were the result of such a procedure, at least a more diversified voice would be heard.

- Kirsten Morley, UVic student

MP weighs in on ban

How on earth could seven members of the UVSS board of directors forget their history, forget their studies, and insult the entire UVic student body by banning Canadian Forces recruitment at a career fair in the Student Union Building (No right to choose, Sept. 20)?

Need I remind them that it was young people like them who were recruited on campus and joined our Armed Forces to fight, and sometimes sacrifice their lives, so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have today? Surely the board members would have learned this in school. Don't they think that it is an utter abuse of power that seven of their members can deprive the entire student body from making up their own minds as to whether or not they wish to join the Canadian Forces?

The UVSS should spend some time with the Canadian Forces members, who are some of the finest citizens we have. They will certainly learn a thing or two from them.

- Keith Martin, Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca MP

UVSS plays "big brother"

I was surprised to hear on CBC radio that the UVSS had restricted my freedom of choice and decreased my educational opportunities by not permitting military recruiters in the SUB (No right to choose, Sept. 20).

The UVSS is playing "big brother" by filtering career opportunities according to political ideologies to which many of us don't subscribe. They aren't representing me and I'm offended by their censorship. In this free country students should be able to choose for themselves which careers they want to pursue and which ideologies they want to subscribe to. This lack of tolerance undermines freedom of choice.

Under protest, the UVSS has decided to put this to a student vote (Ban sent to vote, Sept. 26). However, this is still problematic because it is a vote to restrict career options that many of us would like to be free to consider. I formally request this restriction to be removed and allow military recruiters on campus.

- Becca Naylor, UVic student

More banning please

I don't suppose the UVSS considered a ban on the sex toy show in the SUB (Playing with sex toys, Sept. 27) that took place on the same day as the "vote." Oh well, I guess soldiers and sailors are too disgusting and offensive for our tender sensibilities.

- Jen Whybrow, UVic student

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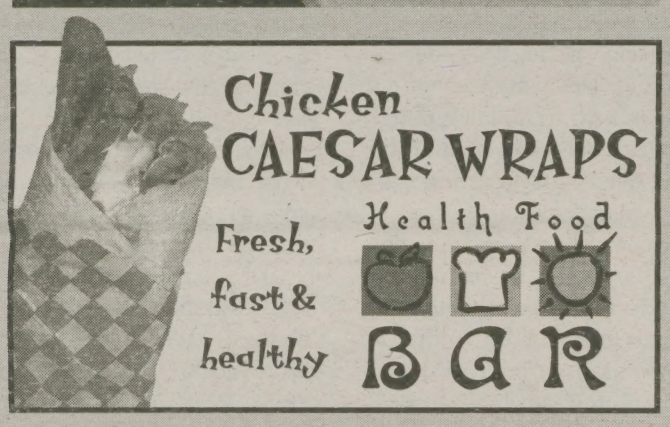

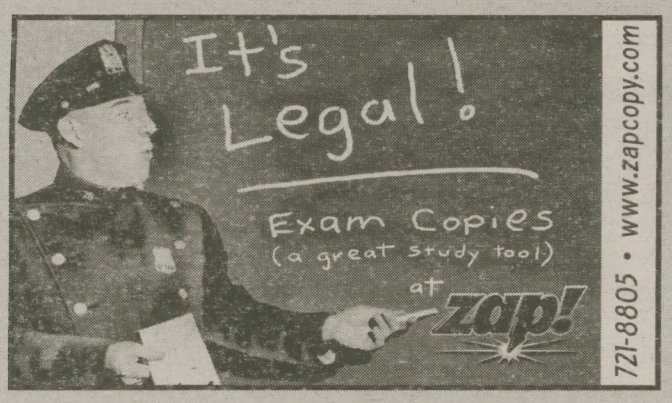

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Ban was justified

Tim Fournier
UVIC STUDENTS AGAINST WAR CO-CHAIR

This "sensationalist hack" (UVSS wrong to impose politics, Sept. 27) would like to set a few things straight (I'm sure the irony of such flattery was clear in the comment, "According to the UVSS, every student on campus hates our troops").

The decision of the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) board to ban recruitment in one room, on one day, did not chop off the signing hand of every UVic student as some would have us believe. It did not limit students' access to the Internet, television, radio, public transit, sporting events, air shows, parades, movie theatres, newspapers and Canadian Forces offices. The military has a $15.5-million recruitment campaign, and Operation Connection expands recruitment into all facets of our society. Part of this program targets First Nations youth with co-op programs where kids as young as 16 are offered $1,400 for two weeks in the field, learning how to fire automatic weapons. With 10 per cent of reserve communities having no access to clean drinking water, don't talk to me about choice.

Choice implies alternatives and access to truthful information. The Burnaby's Teachers' Association is attempting to ban military recruitment at high schools because of "recruiting strategies that present misleading information." Canada's Department of National Defence's website gives an important context: "Motivating an individual for a career in the armed forces ... must be a positive experience. Investigation of recruiting practices in the U.S. Army and Navy suggests approaches which could be profitably emulated."

This is almost humorous considering the New York Times reported nearly one in five U.S. Army recruiters were under investigation in 2004 for offences from "threats and coercion to false promises that applicants would not be sent to Iraq." One veteran recruiter told a reporter for the Albany Times Union, "I've been recruiting for years, and I don't know one recruiter who wasn't dishonest about it. I did it myself." This is to be emulated?

Those who believe that the UVSS should be apolitical, having "no relative function" in that arena, and "having no business making ... value based decisions," should read the UVSS constitution, explicitly where it provides for "responsibility ... to develop positive values." Consider the role student societies have played in the civil rights movement, disengagement from Vietnam, women's liberation and many others. Contrary to Career Services manager Jennifer Margison, to stand up for such things is truly "in the spirit of a university," and is consistent with her insistence on "accordance with Canadian law, and with university policy."

The motion to ban the Canadian Forces from recruiting in the Student Union Building was a symbolic gesture to our government institutions to live up to their commitments. Not only international commitments, but the Canadian Forces' Duty with Honor: The Profession of Arms in Canada, which claims, "First and foremost, duty entails ... compliance with the law." Is this too much to ask? Is it wrong for the UVSS to demand such novel ideas before they endorse their presence?

First, read the Principles of International Law adopted by the International Law Commission of the United Nations, 1950 and the Third Geneva Conventions Article 4 and Protocol I. Then read the report by Canadian diplomats, Afghanistan 2006: Good Governance, Democratic Development and Human Rights.

Initially the government lied and said "no such report... exists." A copy was later released with such phrases as "extrajudicial executions, disappearances, torture and detention without trial are all too common," blacked out on the grounds of "national security." But if you think our diplomats are a bunch of "lefties" too, you may also want to review reports compiled by the U.S. State Department, United Nations, Amnesty International, and Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission.

UBC international law professor Michael Byers stated in the Globe and Mail, "Under international law, you are prohibited from transferring to torture. You are prohibited from facilitating torture in any way," and highlighed "the criminal responsibility of individual Canadian soldiers ... [and the] criminal responsibility that continues up the chain of command."

Excuse me for being sensational.

Martlet Annual General Meeting
October 11th, 4:30 pm
in the Martlet office (SUB B011)

On October 11th, the Martlet will be holding its Annual General Meeting in the Martlet office.

Items on the agenda include:

- Introductions of full-time and part-time staff
- Updates from full-time staff members
- Electing a new board of directors
- Business arising from the previous meeting
- Other business

Nominations for board positions will be held at this meeting. If you would like to be on the board, you must attend this meeting.

If you wish to propose a motion for the meeting, email the Chair of the Board at mishka@uvic.ca for further details.

Kovel talk riddled with inconsistencies

Andrea Sorin
ISRAEL ON CAMPUS PRESIDENT

Like any other extreme political viewpoint, it may be valid to assert that Israel has no right to exist. But to suggest, as Joel Kovel does (Shouting erupts during talk on Israel, Sept. 20) that Israel can exist, but as a bi-national state, is plainly duplicitous. Either we support the right of Israel to exist as a Jewish state, or we do not support the right of Israel to exist period.

Zionism, which is simply the name for Jewish self-determination, can be criticized, condemned and outright opposed. But it is intellectually sustainable to do so only if we oppose every other manifestation of nationalism. To support Palestinian statehood but oppose Jewish statehood is evidence of an inconsistency that begs more questions.

The Graduate Students' Society (GSS), which sponsored Kovel"s presentation on campus, portrayed the event as a balanced attempt to engage the campus in a discussion. Kovel's ideas, like all ideas, deserve a fair hearing on campus, but a fair hearing is merited also on the other side. If a balanced exchange of ideas was the goal here, the society would have contacted my organization or another voice of support for Israel"s right to exist.

In addition, it should be brought to attention that there were only a few graduate students in attendance, and that an organization such as the GSS, whose mandate is to represent the graduate students at UVic, is severely out of touch with the interests of its constituents.

Even so, left to his own devises, Kovel is sometimes his own worst enemy. By using language like "master race," Kovel's message seems intended to deliberately and needlessly provoke by implying parallels with Nazism which, particularly in this case, are contemptible and simply unjustifiable.

Kovel's repetition of the apartheid libel affronts Israeli, Palestinian and African history. It is a deceptive and unmerited cultural appropriation that well-intentioned people should discard.

To Canadian audiences, it may seem pleasant and convenient to think that Israelis and Arabs should live peacefully together. Indeed, they already do. There are more than a million Arab citizens of Israel today and they are among the freest people in the Middle East. But to demand that Israel open its doors to millions more people, most of whom are products of a society whose leadership has, for 60 years, attempted to inculcate through education, media and propaganda an absolutist, exclusive anti-Zionism, is the very definition of a dangerous idea.

Until Palestinian and other regional leaders abandon the genocidal anti-Zionism they sow in their populations, the happy day of multicultural fraternity may yet be some time away, Kovel's insouciant wishful, idealistic thinking notwithstanding.

Buy Canadian, let nature take its course

Nathan Lowther

On Sept. 21, the Canadian loonie soared higher than the American greenback for the first time in more than 30 years. To celebrate, many Canadians have rushed south in pursuit of the almighty bargain.

This is short-sighted. Sure you can save a few bucks, but at what cost?

The American economy is struggling. They are stuck in Iraq like a mosquito in molasses. A recession seems almost certain, if it isn't already approaching. Rather than propping up their economy with our shopping dollar, we should be doing what we can to ensure it collapses by refusing to buy Made in America.

Of course the collapse of the U.S. economy will affect the world — Canada more than most. But if their economy collapses hard enough, it could bring the entire American Empire down with it. In the long run this is best for everyone, including the average American.

The average individual American is pretty decent. I don't wish any hardship on any of them. But I feel a lot less sympathy for the American that loses a house they couldn't afford in the first place, than for the child in Africa that dies for want of a 15 cent malaria vaccine.

And for those that would argue that the results of a collapsed U.S. economy will be felt the world over and that will only decrease that child's chance at getting a vaccine, note that the child isn't getting it regardless.

There's no illusion that a major U.S. recession won't cause a ripple felt the world over. But the neo-liberal promise made in the face of communist Russia has proven to be a lie. There is no trickle-down affect. The rich get richer and more powerful while everyone else gets fed propaganda.

The last super-pig has been alone at the trough for too long. It has gorged itself to the point of bursting. Now, instead of giving the ailing U.S. economy a multi-vitamin, we should be trying to kick it down the stairs. Then with a little luck, a more egalitarian society will emerge. One that is willing to work within an international forum. One that doesn't only ask, "What's best for America?" but instead wonders what's best for humanity and the planet as a whole. Maybe then poverty and malaria will replace the polar bear and the ice caps on the endangered list.

The U.S. isn't the root of all evil. And the U.S. receding some of its power won't suddenly give us a utopian world.

But a global polis is the necessary next step in our social evolution. This will require a global power structure, both economically and politically, that no longer favours the few at the expense of the many, the elite at the expense of the many. The pig must leave the trough.

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Malahat remembers Robin Skelton

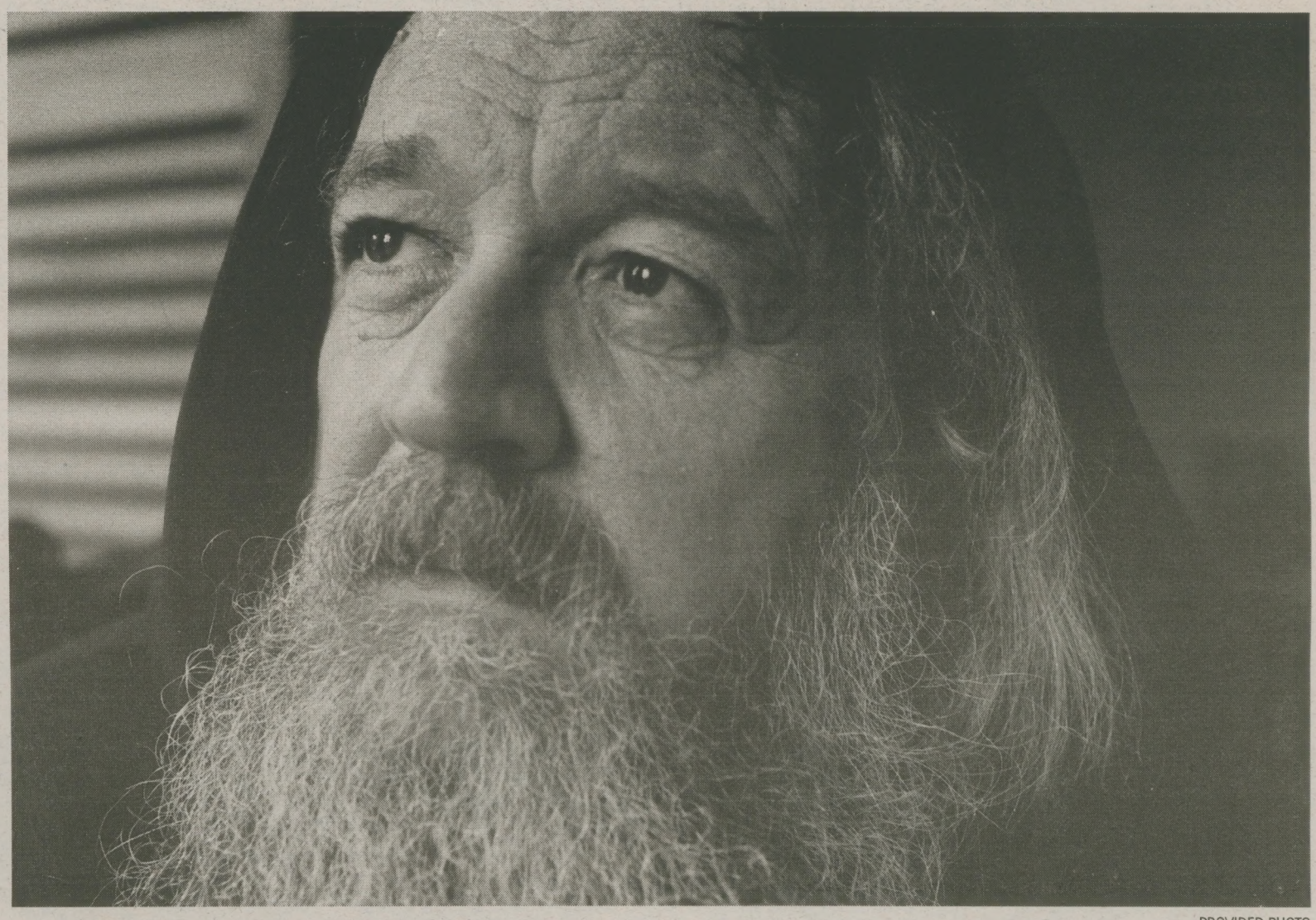
Founder of UVic's writing program is honoured during journal's 40th anniversary celebration

Gregory Virc

It was 1967 when Robin Skelton — poet, professor and pagan — co-founded the Canadian literary journal *The Malahat Review*. Setting up shop at UVic, he and John Peters created an institution dedicated to writing excellence that has endured to the present day.

To honour the past, *The Malahat Review* is organizing its 40th anniversary celebration around the lifework of Skelton, engaging a wide spectrum of media to tell the story of this iconic man-of-letters.

"A lot of writers just sit at their desk and write their work... Robin recognized the importance of being a mentor and in helping and facilitating literary activity."
– John Barton, Malahat editor



PROVIDED PHOTO

Robin Skelton was already an established poet when he arrived at UVic from England in 1963.

John Barton, the *Malahat*'s editor, explained that Skelton was already an established poet when he arrived from England in 1963, lured by the university to assume a professorship in the department of English.

"Robin had an idea of what is required of a university — a humanistic institution," said Barton. "And one thing would be a journal that would present Canadian poetry and fiction alongside the best of world writing. He founded the *Malahat* in Canada's centennial year, just at the point when Canadian writing was jelling into a self-aware community."

The same community that Skelton helped nurture has come together 40 years later to pay their respects, reminiscing in the latest issue of the *Malahat* about the ring-enamoured wizard who passed away in 1997. Through memoir, anecdote, prose and poetry they plumbed the depth and breadth of Skelton's contribution to the world of letters, fleshing out his legacy in vivid detail.

Aside from his sheer prolificness and ability to work across genres (Skelton has published over 100 books of poetry, prose, criticism and historicism) what comes across in the descriptions of Skelton is his role as supporter and nurturer of creativity. Had he not been a dyed-in-the-wool Wiccan, he might have relished the thought of being a patron saint of the arts.

"He had a passionate engagement with the world around him and in the community," said Barton. "A lot of writers just sit at their desk and write their work and don't have a lot of involvement in facilitating the writing of others, whereas Robin recognized the importance of being a mentor and in helping and facilitating literary activity."

Described by writer Howard Gerwing as a "dedicated bibliophile," Skelton was the force behind the creation of the Special Collections at McPherson Library. He was also instrumental in the foundation of UVic's department of writing.

Gregarious and fond of socializing with bohemian company, Skelton was involved with a number of local art movements, including the literary Hawthorne Society of Arts and Letters, and the fine arts Society of Limners. The latter's eclectic visual language can be explored until Nov. 15 at the Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery.

Skelton contributed a spate of neo-surrealist collages to the group, one of which depicts an ecstatic nude woman lying before a monolithic avocado, a work that embodies his belief that "all art is juxtaposition."

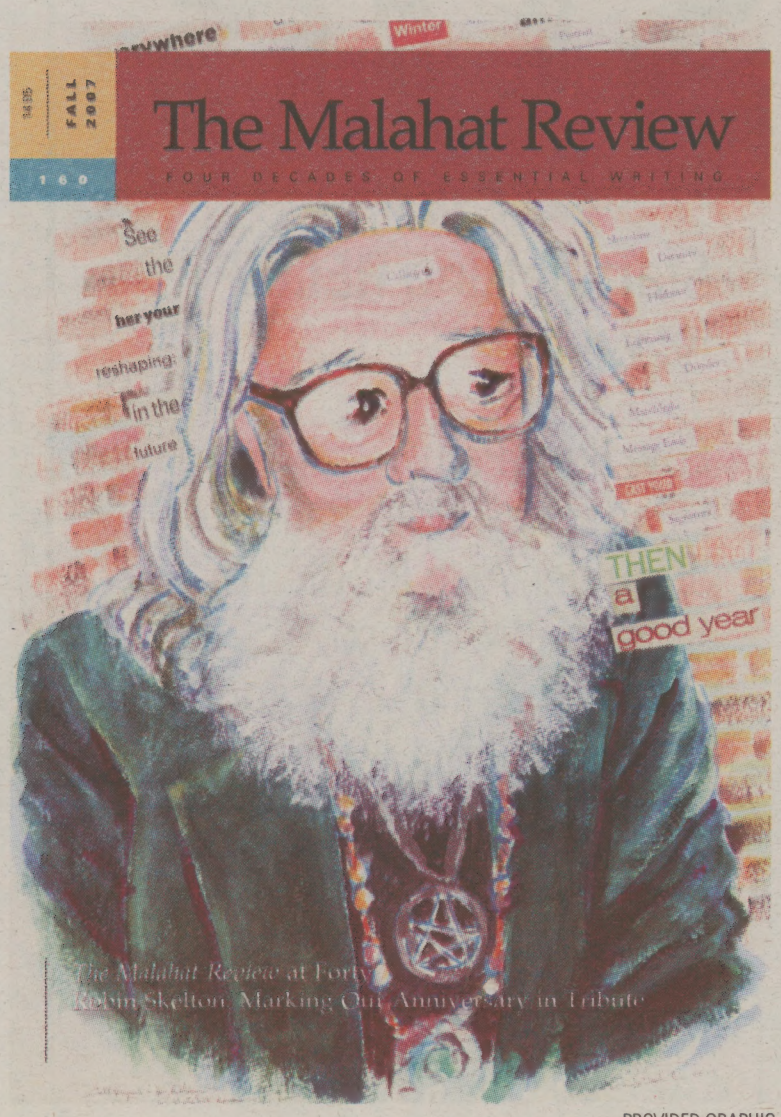
"He was in essence a walking collage ... storyteller, witch and, most of all, poet," wrote Ron Smith in a brief essay in the *Malahat*.

Certainly the persona of Skelton looms large. It's difficult to believe, but at one time the sight of a pentacle emblazoned, gray-maned, druid-figure walking our university halls was commonplace. Many recollect with fondness his distinct laughter — writer D.C. Reid described it as "running your fingernail down a shutter." Others mention his mania for collecting — from stamps, to old '78s, to (of course) his massive collection of books.

By 1981, Skelton was fully immersed in the world of Wicca. One story has him in front of Parliament, reciting an incantation to exorcize the Mulroney government. Another article by David Day recounts his dedication to his "Muses" — poetic metaphor for most artists, but living spirits for Skelton.

Such conviction, and some might say eccentricity, endeared Skelton to many. But for his critics it provided material for their vitriol. They derided him as appealing to the cult of personality, claiming it was a mask to hide poetic lack.

Time will or will not bear this out, and judging by the material present in the celebration of all things "Skeltonia," time is weighing very favourably on Skelton's behalf.


FALL 2007
160
The Malahat Review
FOUR DECADES OF ESSENTIAL WRITING
See the her your reshaping: in the future
THEN a good year
The Malahat Review at Forty
Robin Skelton Marking Our Anniversary in Tribute

PROVIDED GRAPHIC

Skelton graces the cover of the *Malahat*'s 40th anniversary edition.

Man-of-letters

Skelton's poetry has long been revered in the literary world. Here are two of his poems:

Loss

I have forgotten
everything but the way
memories whisper and Dance;

dressed in erasures
I follow a wandering tune
up the hill to the sunset

Excerpt from
Night Poem, Vancouver Island

The wind's in the west tonight,
heavy with tidal sound;
the hush and rattle of trees,
the indrawn breath of the shore,
do what they must; waves slap
at the tip and stagger of stones,
and the night tonight is black;
blackness without intent
moves over the globe
as waters move. The shoals
nose into the storm.

40th anniversary activities:

To get your dish of "Skeltonia," visit one of the following upcoming events:

Oct. 10, 4:30 p.m.
Reception at Maltwood Art Gallery

Oct. 11, 7 p.m.
Robert Bringhurst lecture in Maclaurin D 288

Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Poetry reading at Art Gallery of Greater Victoria

Oct. 13, 2 & 7 p.m., Oct. 14 2 p.m. Robin Skelton: A Living Collage at La Run

MUSIC

'This interview would be easier via telegraph'

Talking to The Weakerthans with lousy cellphone reception

What: The Weakerthans
When: Oct. 7 @ 8 p.m.
Where: Sugar Nightclub
Tickets: Sold out

Brandon DeLyzer

The Weakerthans have just released *Reunion Tour*, their fourth album. Four years since their last release — it's about damn time.

The album was recorded in a closed factory on the outskirts of their hometown of Winnipeg, during the frigid spring pre-dawns. It tackles the space between fear and regret, the fragility and the tension of interpersonal relationships, and the struggle of self-exploration and falling in with the world.

Told through a series of first-person narratives, *Reunion Tour* plays like a collection of short stories, all-the-while keeping the contagious rhythm of their previous album *Reconstruction Site*.

I set up a phone interview with guitarist/keyboardist Stephen Carroll — what could go wrong? But when I arrived at the Martlet office on the morning of our interview, it was closed. My cellphone would have to do.

After dialing, I discovered another problem: Carroll's phone was out of minutes. Not ready for defeat, I called Epitaph Records, the band's label, and was given the touring manager's number.

"Oh, Stephen? He's around here somewhere," she said.

A good while later a faint and staticky voice answered, "Hello?" With a finger in my left ear and the cell on speakerphone pressed to my right, I was in for an irksome Q & A.

Martlet: I'm starting to think this interview would be easier via telegraph.

Carroll: Or carrier pigeon.

M: Ah yes, the faithful messenger. So where are you right now?

C: Lawrence, Kan. It's really one of our first shows on the tour so we're working out all the bugs.

M: I've noticed you play more experimental keyboard sounds and less lap steel guitar on the new album.

C: The album called for more keyboards to get that ambient sound compared to *Reconstruction Site*. I do still play a bit of lap steel though.

M: What's your favourite keyboard effect?

C: It's kind of like a churchy organ sound.

M: I know that songwriting closely neighbours poetry, but I've noticed how The Weakerthans use poetic forms and techniques in a way that makes your lyrics more literately credible. For example, the spoken-word track "Elegy for Gump Worsley" is as poetically triumphant as it is musically.

C: Well, that's exactly what we're going for. To me and [front man John Samson], if the lyrics don't portray something meaningful, then the song isn't worthwhile. In the end, the album is a rock album — the music has to be catchy and upbeat, but we're always thinking about how to incorporate [poetry] into the songs.

M: Who is Gump Worsley anyway?

C: He was actually an NHL goalie. He played for the Canadiens and the Rangers and a bunch of other teams, I think. He was one of the last goalies to play without a mask.

M: I'm a Canadian. I should know this.

C: Yeah. He's pretty old-school.

M: Can you describe a few of the other characters in the album?

C: Well we brought back the cat Virtue [laughs] from *Reconstruction Site*. There's also the Winnipeg bus driver in "Civil Twilight," the story about David Reimer, who was born a boy but raised as a girl after a medical experiment, and there's a few more too, but there's always something factual about [the characters].

M: How much do other art forms inspire your music?

C: A lot: "Night Windows" and "Sun in an Empty Room" are inspired by Edward Hopper paintings.

M: What song are you most proud of?

C: Right now I'd have to say "Tournament of Hearts."

M: Ah, the tale of a romantic failure expressed through the sport of curling. Do you curl?

C: [Laughs] Of course. Me and John play lots of pickup games, and we switched playing the second on my dad's team. There's a lot of curling in Winnipeg.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH SCHLEDEVITZ

The Weakerthans guitarist/keyboardist Stephen Carroll (in blue) didn't have minutes on his cell when the Martlet called.

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Film buffs want SUB darkroom open

SAM VANSCHIE PHOTO

Photojournalism student Hal Walling cuts strips of film negatives. He is one of the few with access to the Fine Arts darkroom.

Without a Photo Club president, the lab is messy and damaged

Carolyn Price

Students hoping to join the campus Photo Club in order to access the Student Union Building (SUB) darkroom were upset to find the group missing in action this term.

The darkroom, located in the basement of the SUB, is restricted to members of the Photo Club and Martlet staff. However, the Martlet hasn't used the darkroom in recent years because they use digital photography.

"The darkroom is not the property of the Photo Club, but it's under their authority," explained Arleigh McKerlich, a second-year student who hopes to revive the club. She is taking an intro to photography class this term.

The SUB, owned by UVic, is rented by the UVic Students' Society (UVSS). The darkroom falls under the free services that the UVSS offers and is technically open to all students. But running the darkroom has never been that simple.

Chemicals need to be restocked, mixed, supervised and disposed. The cost of this is covered by Photo Club members. Previous members paid $15 per term.

But the club's previous president, Anthony Frattaroli, graduated and he hasn't been replaced. Frattaroli works full time and can't donate much time to the club. That was why the Photo Club was missing during Clubs and Union Days in September — Frattaroli couldn't find a replacement to run the booth.

Indeed, much has slipped since Frattaroli left. In the darkroom, counters are littered with unused paper and old prints belonging to previous members. One of the enlargers is broken with a fried cable which will need to be replaced before anyone is able to use it.

McKerlich is hoping to see the darkroom running again. She's already been contacted by several people who are also interested in seeing the darkroom active.

"The club needs its members," Arleigh affirmed. "The photo club provides an open environment where people can come and share knowledge in an informal way. It's how we learn — how we grow as photographers."

Last year the club also ran tutorials on darkroom usage and organized day and weekend field trips for group shooting.

"It's a really open kind of environment for people," said Arleigh. "If you don't have that community there, you don't have that shared knowledge."

There two other darkrooms on campus, but both are restricted to students taking visual arts photography courses or photojournalism. That leaves only the SUB darkroom for students' general use.

But who cares about film in this digital age?

Arleigh does: "I've actually seen a resurgence of [film]. It's almost a reaction to digital," she said. "If you ask in art circles you will find people who are film snobs."

Arleigh admits to being one of the film snobs.

"Film's really more organic and completely about the process. I really like the idea that I've produced [a photo] from the beginning."

Watch for random poetry

Genevieve Young

Poets — they'll get you when you least expect it.

Oct. 1 to 7 is Canada's Random Acts of Poetry week, when poets from across the country will be reading poetry to complete strangers in libraries and bus stops, on beaches and coffee shops, on the street or on a soccer field — anywhere and everywhere.

The week began as the brainchild of Wendy Morton, who recognized that doing "random acts of poetry" were an excellent way to promote poets, poetry and literacy across Canada.

"I love to promote poetry anywhere — stop strangers to read them poems and otherwise commit random acts of poetry," said Morton. "I though it would be good for poets across Canada to do the same thing."

UVic's Carla Funk (appointed Victoria's inaugural Poet Laureate in June 2006) is participating again this year. The public reaction to this unique form of literacy promotion has been positive.

"The response is really great," said Funk. "I've already had people ask me to 'poem' them ... I've had to tell them that they're a week early."

Funk will "accost strangers" during Random Acts of Poetry and ask if they would like to be read one of her poems. After the reading, the stranger will receive a free copy of her latest book.

Random Acts of Poetry is a celebration of poetry and literacy, and is a project of the Victoria READ Society, a non-profit organization that has promoted literacy since 1976. The event is funded by the Canadian Council of the Arts.

The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.
— *Diogenes*

Carole James
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Suck-fest stuck in Centennial Square

More than 100 Victoria mothers show breast is best by feeding in public

Melanie Tromp

Ready, set, suck!

Hungry babies — 124 of them — latched on at precisely 11 a.m. to raise "breast-is-best" awareness on a chilly Sept. 29 in Centennial Square during the annual Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge.

"The moms who come enjoy it so much," said Audrey Treenholme, a public nurse working with Breastfeeding Matters, a co-sponsor of the event. "They feel so special that we have to do it again every year."

This is the seventh year the event has been held in Victoria. It was formerly at the Moss Street Market but organizers needed a bigger and more central place. The park was the best the women could secure.

"In Montreal they could do this in a shopping mall, [but] we are freezing our buns off in Centennial Square here," said Eva Bilb, emcee of the event and owner of The Mothering Touch. "Because not a single shopping mall in Victoria was willing to host this event."

This news was met with a round of booing, an acknowledgment that public perception of breastfeeding is still taboo.

"I was surprised how hard it was to find support for breastfeeding issues in those first few weeks," wrote city councillor Sonya Chandler in a media release. "Even with my connections to the support available in the community, it was difficult."

"There's lots of knowledge in the city, but it may be that accessing it is not as easy as we'd like it to be", said Treenholme, explaining that three breastfeeding clinics operate in the city under the guidance of public health nurses.

Treenholme referred to breastfeeding as a "learned art" that is reinforced in society by its visibility, or lack thereof.

"Little children do not grow up yet seeing all kinds of moms breastfeed their babies. It's not second nature and it's not something that we're familiar with," said Treenholme. "If we have too few examples then we are unable to learn."

Paltry numbers can be attributed to a shift in societal norms from the mid-50s to the mid-70s when breastfeeding was actively discouraged as an old-fashioned idea and formula was encouraged.

"We lost the knowledge," said Treenholme. "We lost the art and we had to work to get it back."

"It was an honour to latch on with the rest of you," said Chandler at the event, bringing greetings from the mayor and city council to the participants.

JAMIE HOOVER PHOTO

Twins feed off their mother at the Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge on Sept. 29.

Chandler recently had a child and has brought about mother-friendly changes to Victoria's City Hall, including the addition of change tables and access to the councillors' lounge for staff who are breastfeeding their children.

The youngest feeder at the challenge was 10 days old, and the oldest was 40 months. Two sets of twins took part as well. Victoria placed fifth overall in terms of number of babies out of 259 sites across North America.

Dancing through classes

Danielle Clarke

Visiting the Canadian College of Performing Arts' open house on Sept. 29 begs the question of why we bother going to lectures, taking notes and researching, while their students get a degree to dance.

Many outsiders to the theatre business only see the final product of a production, but at the open house at the school, located on Elgin Street in Oak Bay, students were showing off what happens before the stage.

I was greeted by of a vibrant suited man on stilts, lessons in mock swordfighting, free popcorn and an array of tables hoping to leech from visitors' wallets, helping to fund the non-profit school. Students have to use every opportunity to fundraise for their annual school fees — roughly $14,000.

A mere glance into this colourful enticing atmosphere and one garners a newfound love of musicals and stardom. The room was filled with students eager to drag anyone and everyone into their stations.

Students at the school spend their first and second years juggling classes and practice. In third year, they work on strictly resumé building with the help of professional directors. After a short tour through the classrooms and chaotic space that makes up the heart of college (passing by vocal-training exercises, singing lessons complete with lyrics and bass player, and tap dancing classes) it was easy to see the extent that students have to work to broaden their knowledge to be successful in the theatre industry.

We were given 15-minute classes sampling what the school has to offer, one of which was a certain Fosse jazz experience. Anyone familiar to Bob Fosse's choreography and rhythmic style (such as in Chicago or Cabaret), will understand the extensive leg dramatics, sleek sexual suggestiveness and numerous specified movements involved. As open-house attendees flayed to-and-fro attempting to pinpoint the beauty in "broken" wrist movements, students were there to demonstrate the true Fosse style and certain elegance.

The class was taught by Jacques Lemay, the college's co-founder and managing artistic director. Lemay dabbled in many genres of choreography, including the opening ceremonies for the 1988 Calgary Olympics, musicals, operas and ballets.

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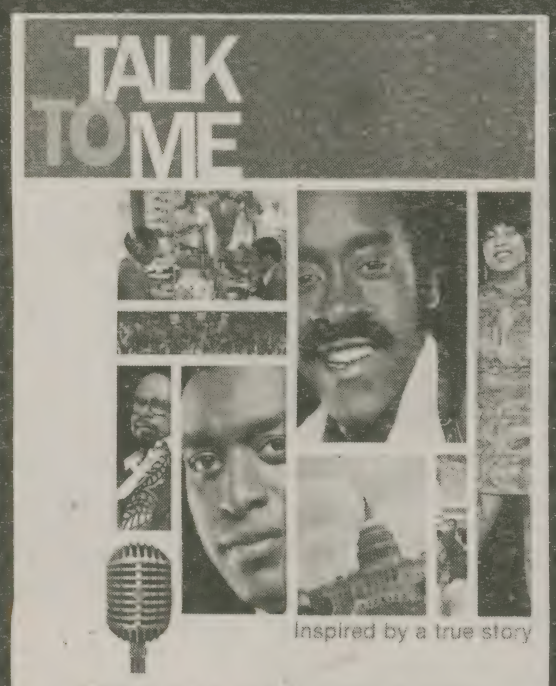

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   Reunion Tour (Anti-/Epitaph)
7. BABY ELEPHANT
   Turn My Teeth Up! (Godforsaken Music)
8. MUM
   Go Go Smear The Poison Ivy (Fat Cat)
9. DEEP DARK WOODS *
   Hang Me Oh Hang Me (Black Hen)
10. CARIBOU *
    Andorra (Merge)

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Hear the weekly top ten on Charts and Graphs every Thursday at 3:00 PM on CFUV 101.9FM.

ON CAMPUS

CFUV wants more hosts, web content

Alain Champagne

It's a new year for CFUV, our campus and community radio station, and you can expect a few changes.

There are now more time slots reserved for students than ever, and good ones at that, said program director Jana Grazley. Monday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Tuesday from 10:30 p.m. to midnight are awaiting new student hosts.

"It's a good opportunity to share something you're passionate about," said Grazley, who encourages students to come by the station to sign up for orientation sessions.

There are four new student shows on air this semester.

On Tuesdays, you're sure to get a healthy helping of Canadian content with *Red, White and You* from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and *Canada Post* from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Red, White and You host Cody Gregory likes to make use of the band room, often bringing in Canadian musicians for live performances. An hour after Gregory's show comes to a close, *Canada Post* host Johanna Henderson explores the music scene of Canadian towns, focusing on a new town every week.

> There are now more time slots reserved for students than ever

On Fridays, student hosts offer up some hip hop with *Sundry* from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. and *The Corner* from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Sundry host Sves Yeung and *The Corner* host Ashly Kissman, as well as Henderson, are a part of the rising 36 per cent female volunteer base. In 1984, when the station first went FM, 90 per cent of volunteers were male. The increase is largely due to the funding of the CFUV Women's Radio Collective in 2000, a group of CFUV staff members and volunteers working to give a voice to women in the community.

Web content is also on the rise this year. A new website has just been launched, which station manager Randy Gelling said is graphically pleasing and, more importantly, technologically up to date.

"There will be more podcasts for music interviews and public affairs, more of CFUV's magazine Renegade Radio, and maybe even the addition of blog and Flickr content," said Gelling.

Unfortunately, legal issues prevent the website from hosting music podcasts, so unless you can find certain bold DJs hosting their own, your best web access to CFUV is still streaming live.

ALAIN CHAMPAGNE PHOTO

***Sundry* host Sves Yeung plays hip hop every Friday from 3 to 4 p.m.**

A new website isn't the only technological update in the works. Gelling is also considering buying a new transmitter for the station, which would replace the nearly 20-year-old one they use now. It would provide better quality and range to broadcasting over Victoria's difficult terrain. Just how strong the signal is allowed to be without invading someone else's air space still needs to be looked into.

There are, however, a few alternatives that may warrant rethinking a new transmitter.

"The first, though least likely, is satellite radio," explained Gelling, noting its possible drop in popularity. "The second is digital radio and the third is wireless Internet." It'll take some time for the technology to advance, but listening to Tyler Pantella's *Pterodactyl Sneak Attack* over wireless Internet in your car might not be so far off.

The future of radio aside, you should know that you could be a part of CFUV.

The station is located in the basement of the Student Union Building in room B 006 and is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can listen to CFUV on your radio at 101.9 FM. For more information, go to cfuv.uvic.ca.

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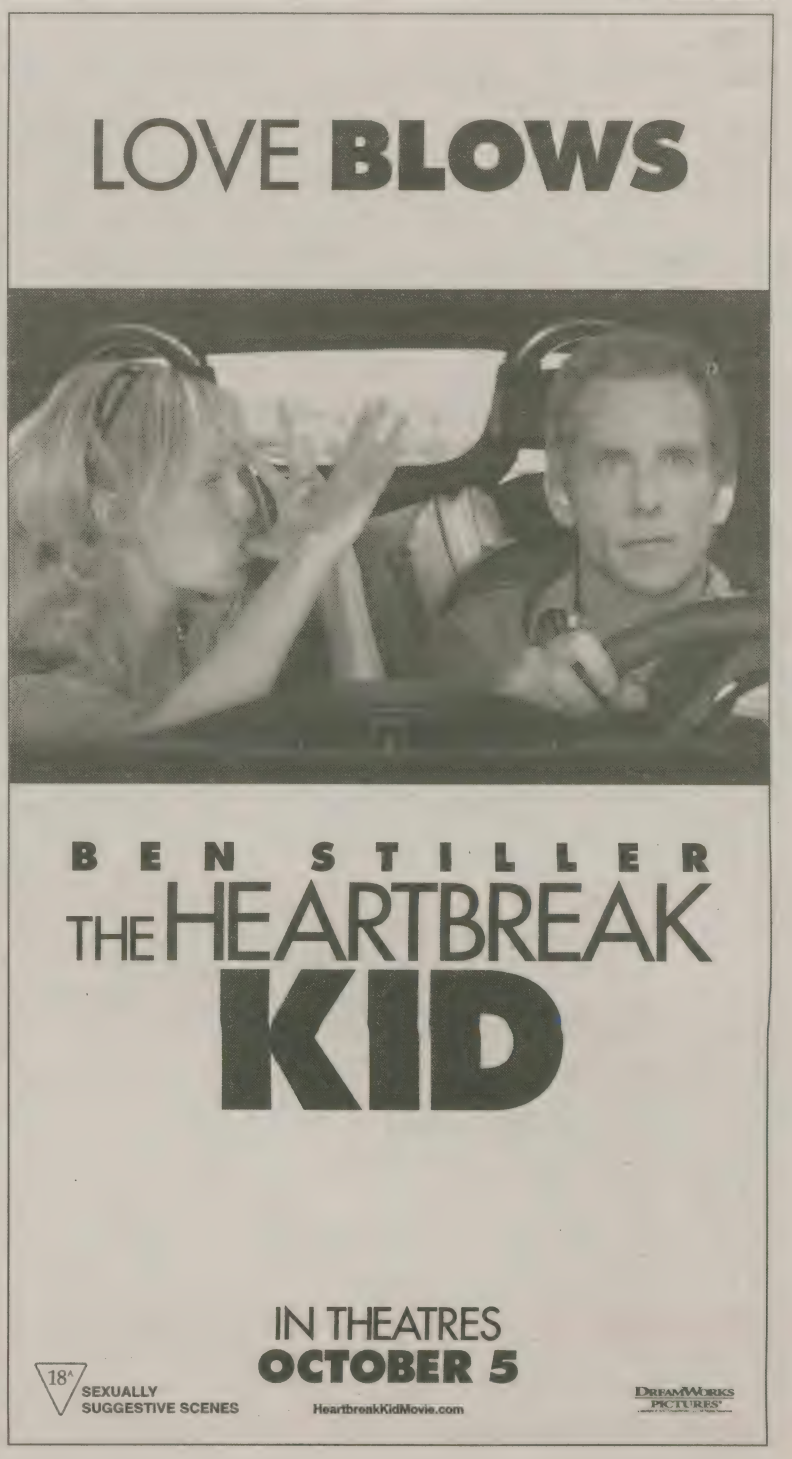

Voleurz making a name for themselves

The local shirt-making cinematographers strike their debut at Victoria's Lucky Bar

Alex Grant

What: More For the Astronauts Deep Space Tour
Where: Lucky Bar
When: Oct. 4

From 20 shirts being made in UVic's Hodges residence building, to 20 boxes being shipped in from China, the Voleurz family — which produces movies and clothing — is growing.

The Martlet spoke with Voleurz co-founder and UVic alumnus Darren Rayner about the company's upcoming cross-country More For the Astronauts Deep Space Tour (the premiere of their new videos, launching from Victoria on Oct. 4 at Lucky's) and how it all started.

Rayner and a few other Voleurz members found themselves throwing a big party in Hodges sometime in 2002, and decided it'd be a good idea to make some shirts and throw them into the crowd. Soon enough, one thing led to another and the shirts were becoming hot commodities on the UVic campus.

Aside from dabbling in shirt making, Rayner also filmed local mountain bikers, skateboarders and snowboarders. He found himself with tons of footage and no idea what to do with it, giving birth to *Galactic Alliance*, his first film. This film propelled Voleurz. *Yes/No/Maybe*, Voleurz's second film, opened at a packed premiere, and their apparel is still in high demand.

What sets these guys apart from the more generic snowboard/ski/skate filmmakers or designers is the energy and fun that they incorporate into everything they do. Aside from their antics on film (like skateboarder Jan Schuster macking on an old, somewhat crazy and shrill woman) the unique shooting techniques and colour in their films make them much more interesting to watch than the typical snowboard and skate films. The almost entirely Canadian soundtrack helps too, like Victoria's Current Swell, Vancouver's You Say Party! We Say Die! and others. Big-name backers decked out in Voleurz have caught the public eye as well, including skier TJ Schiller, who was shot in this month's Skiing Magazine.

Voleurz's apparel line is filled with little quirks that keep it interesting and fun. Their hoodies, for example, have small secret stash pockets in the hood.

Now for the exciting part: the Deep Space Tour — which begins in one of Voleurz's home bases (Victoria) and ends in their other (Whistler). According to the Voleurz website, their RV will be "stacked with adult beverages, camera gear and smelly socks."

Tickets are available in advance for $5 from UVic's Snowboard Club for the tour's premiere at Lucky's.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLEURZ

Braden Dean soars to impressive heights for the work of Voleurz.

Next Martlet editorial meeting:
This Friday, 12:30 p.m SUB B011. Come on down!

University of Victoria Public Lecture

John Albert Hall Lecture Series

Sponsored by the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria.

Sarah Coakley
University of Cambridge

Flesh and Blood: The Eucharist, Desire and Gender

"In Persona Christi": Who, or Where, is Christ?
LECTURE 1 Wednesday, October 10

Sacrifice Revisited: Blood and Gender
LECTURE 2 Thursday, October 11

Gift Re-told: Spirals of Grace
LECTURE 3 Monday, October 15

Real Presence, Real Absence: The Body Broken
LECTURE 4 Tuesday, October 16

All lectures 7:30 p.m. in the Human and Social Development Building, Room A240

Sarah Coakley is Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge. An Anglican priest, feminist theologian and philosopher of religion, Coakley's works include *Pain and Its Transformations: The Interface of Biology and Culture* (2007); *Powers and Submissions: Philosophy, Spirituality and Gender* (2002); *Religion and the Body* (1997); *and God, Sexuality and the Self: An Essay "On the Trinity,"* the first in a forthcoming four-volume series on systematic theology.

"(Coakley's work) should be welcomed...for its sensitive placing of feminist concerns at the heart of constructive Christian theology"
– Rachel Muers, Sage Publications Online

Free and open to the public. Seating is limited.
Visit our online events calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

Persons with a disability requiring accommodation for these lectures should call 472-4947 at least 48 hours in advance. For more information on this lecture phone 721-6325.

Rookie goalie leads team's undefeated streak

Kim Magi

Kaitlyn Williams is the UVic women's field hockey team's only goalie. She was scouted by three different universities, and on Sept. 29, her shutout streak ended at an impressive 321 minutes. Plus she's a rookie.

Williams, 18, didn't even have the opportunity to play high school field hockey — her school, Surrey's Elgin Park Secondary, didn't offer it. She got involved in the sport in Grades 7 and 8 when her friends were playing in a spring league. A soccer goalie at the time, Williams decided to try her hand in the field hockey net. She also tried other positions, but being left-handed, she found holding the sticks made for right-handed players awkward and she stuck to being a goalie. It paid off.

A Team B.C. player for the past four years, Williams was scouted by Vikes coach Lynne Beecroft at a tournament held at UBC last year. Beecroft, a coach for the past 24 years, knew Williams had potential and saw her as "a diamond in the rough." Beecroft could tell that Williams was dedicated to the game because driving from her home in Surrey to practices at UBC would take around 45 minutes.

Williams found the other two universities who scouted her, UBC and the University of Alberta, were much bigger schools than what she wanted, and chose UVic because of its size and proximity to home. Another perk of being a Vike is the ongoing teaching from assistant coach Krista Thompson, who played for the national team as a goalkeeper.

"She can actually help me out," said Williams.

Of the 16 players on this year's team, roughly half are rookies. With one exception, the first-year students all live in UVic residences. Being a student athlete is hard enough, and some would argue that residence would also add its share of distractions, but Williams disagrees.

"There's always stuff going on," she said. "But it hasn't bothered me."

Williams' athletic dreams extend beyond playing field hockey at the university level. "My goal is to make the national team," she said. Her coach said that's a possibility.

"I feel she has the potential to play for Canada," Beecroft said.

On Sept. 29, a shot slipped past Williams and into the net while the Vikes played at UBC, ending her four game shutout streak. That game ended in a 2-2 tie. Another match against the UBC Thunderbirds the next day ended in a 1-1 draw. UVic is still the only team to be undefeated this season.

The team will travel to Edmonton to play against the Alberta Pandas on Oct. 6 and 7.

KIM MAGI PHOTO

Kaitlyn Williams is goalkeeper for the women's field hockey team.

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Vikes, T-Birds split double-header

LEAH BENTABERRY PHOTO

Miguel Romeo, Peter Richmond and Sam Wingham talk strategy before a free kick during the Sept. 28 game against UBC.

Nathan Lowther

The UBC Thunderbirds came away with a well-deserved 2-1 victory over the UVic Vikes at Centennial Stadium on Sept. 28.

"Oh man, we needed that one. We needed that result," said UBC defender Graham Smith. The win leaves the two teams even in the standings with 10 points off identical 3-1-3 records.

The game started with some hasty play and neither team was able to hold the ball for any length of time. But as the half wore on, UBC started to dominate possession and kept the UVic defence under pressure. UVic had the best chance of the scoreless half when midfielder Kyle Langseth just missed converting a low cross at the far post.

UBC came out flying in the second half, opening the scoring in the 49th minute. After a give-and-go just outside the box was broken up by a Vike defender, T-Bird midfielder Michael Elliot swooped in on the loose ball and fed Martin Ferreira Pinho who buried his chance just inside the left post.

"I liked our competitive spirit and our battle," said UBC coach Mike Mosher.

Seven minutes later the Vikes evened the match on a penalty goal. Vikes forward Cole McFarlane showed skill in getting around his defender, forcing Elliot to take him down on a slide tackle. Vikes midfielder Miguel Romeo made no mistake from the spot.

"I placed it left of the goalie, near the post. He couldn't get there: 1-1," said Romeo.

UBC shook off the goal and continued to carry the play, taking the lead for good in the 64th minute, where Ferreira Pinho was again instrumental, leading a quick counter-attack that seemed to catch the Vikes flatfooted. He found forward Steve Frazao wide open in front of the net, about 12 yards out. Vikes keeper Colin Gray made a huge save, but Frazao showed why he was an all-star last year and put home the rebound.

Vikes defender Joel Gomez won a national title with UBC in 2005 and was facing his old team for the first time, making the loss extra bitter. "My friends were here, so it's good to play against them," he said. "Kind of sucked we lost."

Gomez took the only card of the match, a yellow in the first half. The reffing was anything but stellar.

"He made a couple of bad calls both ways," said Gomez. "We need to get better refs out here."

Mosher agreed. "Five home games Victoria has had, and they've had a penalty kick in four of the five," he said.

On Sept. 30, the Vikes faced off against the T-Birds once again, this time at UBC. Vikes Midfielder Sam Wingham scored late in the second half for a 1-0 win. UVic is now third in the Canada West divison.

The Vikes travel to Lethbridge to take on the Pronghorns on Oct. 13.

- files from G. Karstens-Smith

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UVic loves to hate Thunderbirds

From men's basketball to women's field hockey, the majority of Vikes teams say UBC is their biggest rival

Nathan Lowther

South of the border, some college clashes are epic.

Whether it's Michigan versus Ohio State in football or Duke against North Carolina in basketball, these are the games that both the players and the student body mark on their calendars. Some of these feuds run so deep that coaches with impressive overall winning percentages get fired simply for losing too often come rivalry week.

So who is it that every self-respecting UVic Vike should have a friendly hate-on for?

"UBC," said Tyler Hass, a fourth-year forward on the Vikes men's basketball team. "No one else. They're the ones."

The UBC Thunderbirds are our natural rival. Both schools enjoy campuses a jump shot away from the ocean. Both teams compete in the Canada West division of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS). And, most importantly, both schools have enjoyed a great deal of athletic success, often at each other's expense.

UBC ranks second in overall CIS national titles in all sports, while UVic runs fourth. Success plus proximity equals intense contests.

The competitiveness of the two universities is evident in men's soccer. UBC was the national champ in 2005, one year after UVic was king of the mountain. Second-year midfielder Miguel Romeo said it's easy to get fired up when playing against UBC, although he added that Trinity Western is also a team the Vikes love to beat.

But don't use up all your animosity hunting T-Birds for your Thanksgiving feast — save some rage for the Clan from Burnaby Mountain, because on the women's court it's SFU that gets the blood boiling. "It's just always been Simon Fraser," said basketball player Kayla Dykstra. Last February, SFU ended UVic's season in the Pacific Divison semi-finals.

And then there is men's rugby. Each year UVic and UBC play for "the boot," with the winner decided on total points in the two-game series. Still, second-year player Ken Ukrainec ranked local club James Bay as his top antagonist.

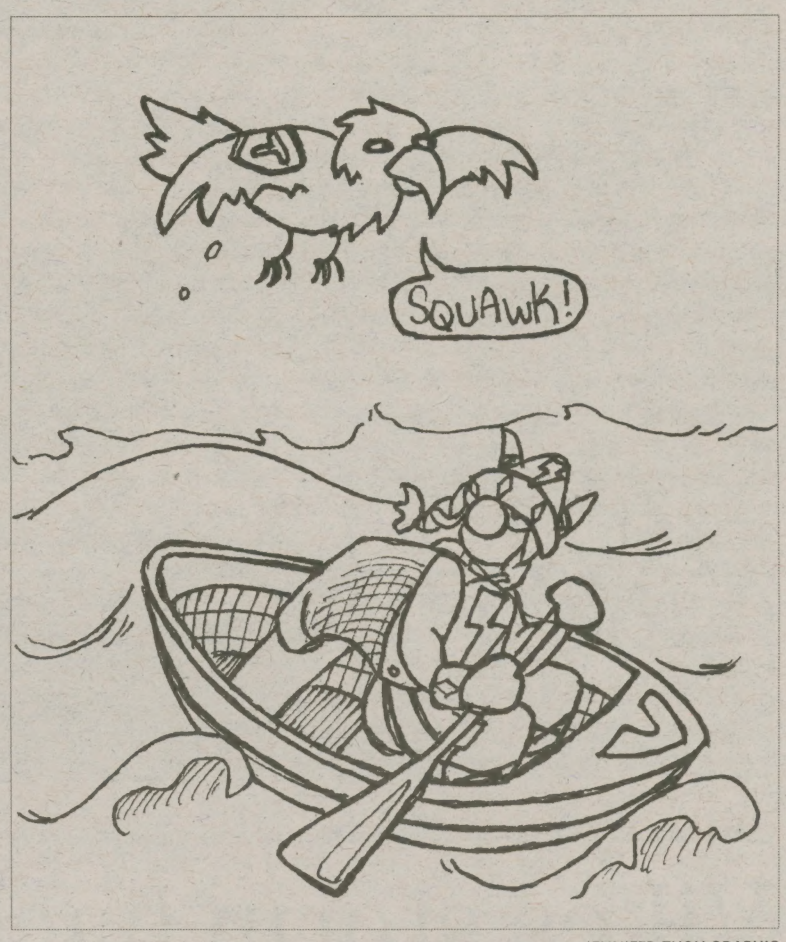
"It's the things that go down in that game," he explained, hinting at some ferocious play.

But in the end, it always comes back to UVic versus UBC. No sport illustrates this battle better than women's field hockey. The two programs have won 15 of the last 18 national titles. UVic won eight of those titles, but UBC has won three of the last four years.

Last season the clubs met in the championship game, each program with 10 previous banners under their belts. UBC came out on top in that game.

"They've got our 11th title," said fourth-year Vikes midfielder Ali Lee. "And we want it back."

Players of all sports get fired up for rivalry games. The play on the field, the court, or the pitch is guaranteed to be intense and severe. So mark your student planner, because nothing says collegiate athletics like a rabid student body getting out and becoming a part of the game. In fact, the results can be legendary.



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

UPCOMING RIVAL GAMES

MEN'S RUGBY

Vikes vs. James Bay
Wallace Field
Sat. Oct. 20, 3 p.m.

Vikes @ James Bay
MacDonald Park
Sat. Nov. 17, 3 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Vikes @ UBC
War Memorial Gym
Fri. Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

Vikes @ UBC
War Memorial Gym
Sat. Dec. 1, 8 p.m.

Vikes vs. UBC
McKinnon Gym
Fri. Jan. 18, 8 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Vikes @ Trinity Western
David E. Enarson Gym
Sat. Oct. 20, 7:15 p.m.

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

Vikes vs. UBC
UVic field hockey pitch
Sat. Oct. 13, 12 p.m.

Vikes vs. UBC
UVic field hockey pitch
Sun. Oct. 14, 12 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Vikes vs. SFU
McKinnon Gym
Fri. Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Vikes @ SFU
Chancellor Gym
Fri. Jan. 25, 6:15 p.m.

Vikes @ SFU
Chancellor Gym
Sat. Jan. 26, 7 p.m.

VIKES SCOREBOARD

MEN'S RUGBY
Sept. 29 Vikes 27, Velox 25

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Sept. 28 Vikes 2, Fraser Valley 1
Sept. 29 Trinity Western 2, Vikes 0

MEN'S SOCCER
Sept. 28 UBC 2, Vikes 1
Sept. 30 Vikes 1, UBC 0

WOMEN'S RUGBY
@Canada West Tournament
Sept. 28 Lethbridge 29, Vikes 5
Sept. 29 UBC 25, Vikes 0
Sept. 30 Alberta 32, Vikes 0

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
Sept. 29 Vikes 2, UBC 2
Sept. 30 Vikes 1, UBC 1

The Malahat Review at 40

The Party
Launch the Skelton tribute issue
October 10 4:30 pm
Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery, UVic

University of Victoria

The Talk
Robert Bringhurst on Robin Skelton, Charles Lillard, Bill Reid, and the West Coast Renaissance
A Lansdowne Lecture
October 11 7 pm
MacLaurin Building, Room D288, UVic

The Gala
Hear seven celebrated poets read
October 12 7:30 pm
Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
Gallery admission: $12 ($10 students)

Robin Skelton: A Living Collage
A light puppet and video extravangza
October 13 2 pm & 7:30 pm
October 14 2 pm
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ELIZABETH HAMES PHOTO

UVic (right) faces off against Velox in a scrum during the Sept. 29 game. Although the Vikes were down 18-3 at the half, they fought back to win the game 27-25.

Vikes storm back to conquer Valhallians

Max Sussman

The Vikes men's rugby team looked surprisingly vulnerable in their 27-25 victory over rivals Velox Valhallians on Sept. 29. Gordie Sawers' try with under a minute remaining completed a rousing comeback that saw UVic claw back from an 18-3 halftime deficit.

A much larger and more powerful team than the Vikes, Velox used their size to their advantage in the first half by keeping the ball in the middle of the field they were able to neutralize UVic's superior speed and conditioning.

"We didn't take the ball to them," said UVic head coach Doug Tate. "We couldn't put together three or four plays before we knocked the ball on."

Velox controlled the field well, mauling off of line-outs and using their strength to will the ball up the field. To stop the Vikes' high-octane attack, they made sure they were never outflanked. The few times UVic got the ball wide, multiple Valhallians were there to overpower the offensive rush.

One advantage UVic had over Velox was depth. With a couple players injured and more away with Team Canada, the Vikes were thin but still deep enough. Vike Ben Grant, also a member of the Canadian U-21 team, was playing with a banged-up ankle. He pulled up lame after a missed tackle but remained in the game. In the waning moments of the first half, Grant missed a tackle during a run that set up Valhallian Cam Neish's try to put Velox up 18-3. But Tate saw the glass as half full.

"Considering how he was yesterday and the day before, he played pretty well," Tate said.

It was not until the second half that UVic was able to produce some offence. Chris Thompson showed Velox the speed UVic is known for with a pair of tries to open the half and quickly tighten the score to 18-17 after conversions by Ty Shannon.

After Velox powered its way to another try courtesy of Dean Van Camp in the 61st minute, UVic got a break when they went a man up. Reserve Kristian Frantzen quickly scored a try, again using speed to the outside. Shannon missed the conversion, leaving the game hanging at 25-22.

Then, with under a minute remaining, scrum half Jamie Mackenzie dug the ball out of a ruck about 10 meters out and got it to Sawers on the outside. Sawers dangled and was able to dive his way to a game-winning try.

"We got lucky today ... but we had good enough spurts at the end to pull it out," said Tate.

The Vikes hosted UBC on Oct. 3, but those results weren't available as of press time. Next up for the UVic team is a match at Cowichan on Oct. 13.

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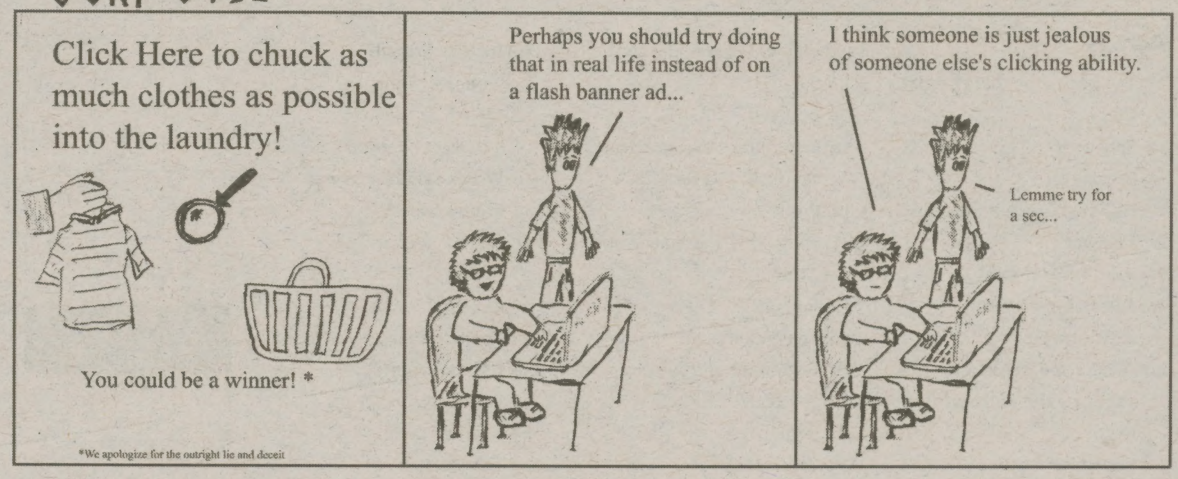
by Gord Duff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THREE MEN IN A BOAT "4

by James Sharp, Aj Batalden, Liam Begley

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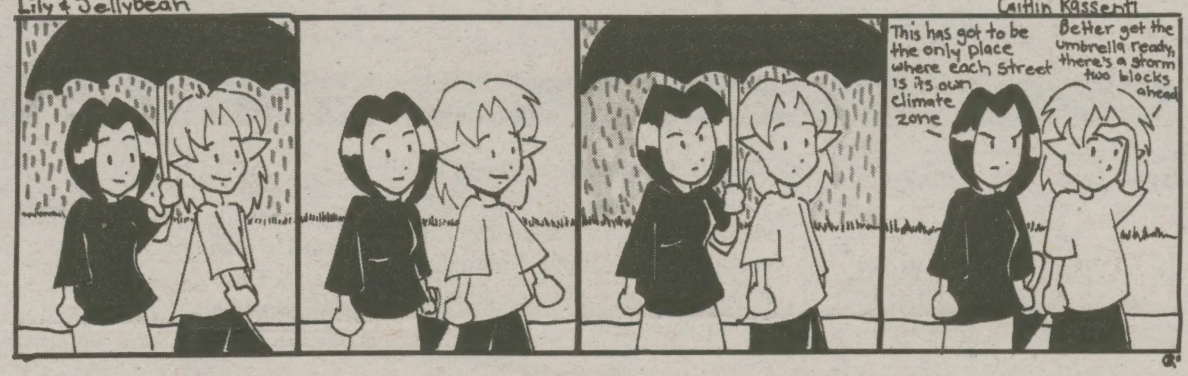
BUT... BUT I AM HAPPY!
FORTUNATELY, YOU HAVE ME! I'LL JUST REPLACE THE WORD "SNUGGLE" WITH "MUTILATE"... ADD A VERSE ABOUT A PROSTITUTE WHO DIES IN A DITCH...
LYRIC
I HATE HAVING TO CHANGE SO MUCH.
CAN'T WE JUST GET RID OF THE DEAD HOOKER?
HA! BOY, IF I HAD A DOLLAR FOR EVERY TIME A CLIENT ASKED ME THAT QUESTION...
WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT LYRICS, RIGHT?
...SURE. WHY NOT.

Lily & Jellybean — Caitlin Rassenti


This has got to be the only place where each street is its own climate zone
Better get the umbrella ready, there's a storm two blocks ahead

MODERN PLANES ARE DESIGNED TO PISS OFF THE ALMIGHTY
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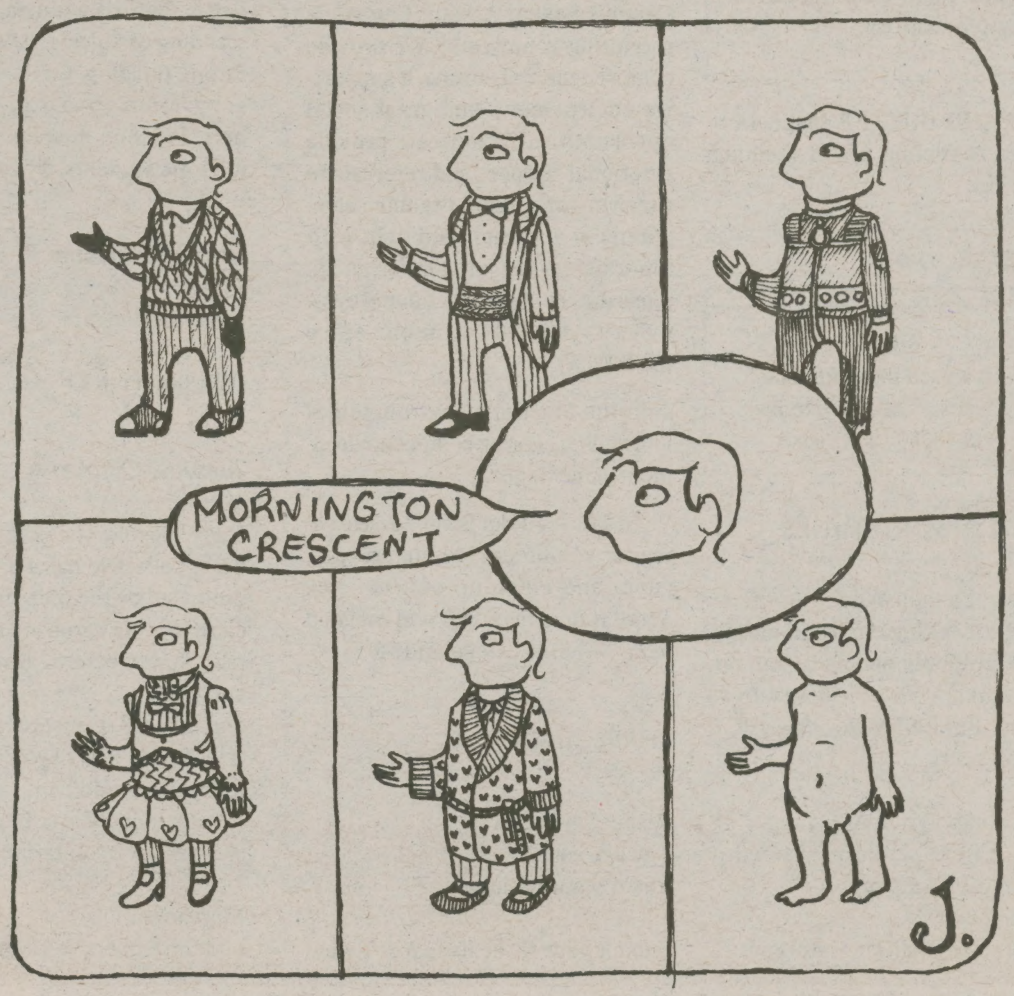
by alex raynor, mike anthony

Breath of a Galesman
By Brendan Manning

Criminal intent



Diversions

The Martlet Crossword by Niko Skartvedt

Across

1 The person in charge (abbr.)
5 Gents
10 Spoke
14 Dead
15 Handwriting in Portugal
16 Take back
17 Pairs with "Office"
18 Edmonton player
19 Servant class
20 Where you might let your pages do the walking? (2 words)
23 Sea eagle
24 Nostalgic
27 Practices
30 Letters before P in an invite
32 Pale
33 Decorative adornment
35 Down ____ (perfect)
37 Waters
38 Neighbourhood in NYC
39 Variation on the name of the last Russian tsar
42 Prefix with nitrotoluene
43 One dimensional
45 Vietnamese noodle soup
46 Saw
48 Leaflet
50 Record labels or politicians can be this (abbr.)
52 Profit
53 Soup with thick sauce and game
54 Cry out
56 The end is nigh? (2 words)
62 Beginning of a famous soliloquy
64 John ____
65 Cry in golf
66 Pains
67 "Congressperson shows __ __ the topic" (Disdain toward)
68 Libra's birthstone, perhaps
69 Join
70 Continues
71 Cry out

Down

1 Trick
2 Go on, with enthusiasm
3 And the rest
4 Venders
5 Mime
6 Young cow
7 King of the Huns featured in Völsunga saga
8 Not yet berthed?
9 Puppeteer Tony
10 Quash
11 It dulls the senses
12 Words said to a pastor
13 Clothe oneself
21 Card or Welles
22 Period
25 One that bucks
26 Position to legally accept a pass (in sports)
27 Food ____
28 Spanish dish
29 Formidable
31 Snuggle
34 Backtalk
36 ____ bo
40 Mythical beast
41 Islands in Spain
44 Maelstrom
47 James of *Rome*
49 River in Mexico
51 Fungus that eats away at wood
55 Gapes
57 Mid-fifth century in Rome
58 Robert E. and Bruce
59 Dissenting vote
60 Kind of exam
61 Satisfactory
62 Enchanter from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*
63 Matador's cry

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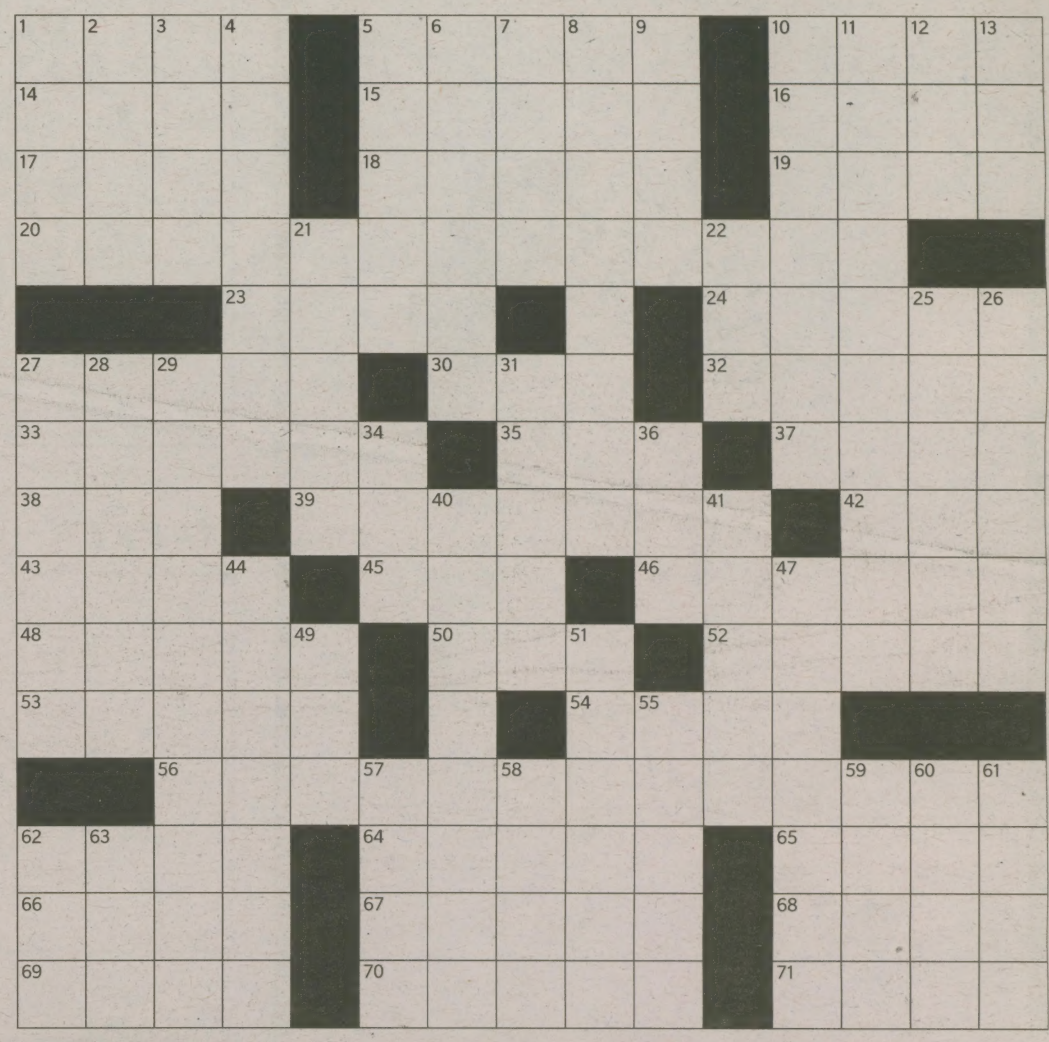
For puzzle answers, please visit our website



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NEED Crisis and Information Line volunteers. Next Training Group: September 29th. 386-6328. www.needcrisis.bc.ca.

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EVENTS FOR OCT. 4 THROUGH OCT. 10

Thursday, October 4

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Mon & Thur, 4:30 - 5:15pm.
UVic Interfaith Chapel.
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Words in flight. An open mic for writers of all types. Thursday evenings at James Bay Coffee & Books, 7pm - 9pm, 143 menzies, 15 minutes early sign-up to read. Details: 386-4700 or 483-4762.

Greater Victoria Water Watch Coalition: 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 2994 Douglas Street, Victoria

Friday, October 5

CG Jung Society lecture. John Betts, Towards a Jungian Understanding of Suicide. UVic, David Strong Building, C 116. Oct. 5, 2007 from 7:30 to 9:45 pm. Members, $10; non-members, $15; full-time students, $5.

Monday, October 8

Learn to Meditate
Mon & Thur, 4:30 - 5:15pm.
UVic Interfaith Chapel.

Tuesday, October 9

Every Tuesday at 2:30 pm the Buddhist Collective has a discussion group led by the Zen monk on campus - his name is Eshu. We read Buddhist texts, discuss them and chat. It's done in a relaxing and friendly atmosphere. Anyone is welcome (i.e. all you need is an interest in Buddhism - you don't have to identify as a Buddhist!) We meet at the Interfaith Chapel.

More info:
buddhistcollective@hotmail.com

Wednesday, October 10

Attention all community members. We have some critical issues to talk about at Community to End All Homelessness meetings - Wednesdays at 7pm at Silver Threads/1740 Douglas St (at Herald St).

Closing Jails the Restorative Justice Way. Speaker: Susan Langlois. Details: Noon, DataTech Business Centre, 3rd Floor, 1095 McKenzie Avenue (corner of Borden & McKenzie) RSVP: P: 250.383.4412, speakers@disputeresolution.bc.ca. Admission is by donation. Tea and coffee will be available.

Thursday, October 11

Potluck for Ancient Forests!!!! 5:00pm, UVic, SUB, large side of the Michelle Pujol Room. Come meet people, eat good food, and bring your friends, family, everyone. There will be an opportunity to write a letter to Gordan Campbell about our quickly diminishing old growth forests and to learn more about the campaign. There will also be sign making for the Big Big rally on the 13th, silk-screening, raffle prizes and more. Don't forget to bring some food, a dish and utensil.

Learn to Meditate
Mon & Thur, 4:30 - 5:15pm.
UVic Interfaith Chapel.

Upcoming

Oct. 12th, 13th, and 14th - The Going Beyond Climate-Neutral Conference. Students, staff, faculty, and regional partners interested in creating an effective strategy for climate change action will come together to join the conversation, contribute their ideas, and make it happen. More info: www.uvic.commonenergy.org or email info@uvic.commonenergy.org

Oct. 13 - RALLY for Vancouver Island's Ancient Forests and BC Jobs! - This'll be the BIG ONE, we need everyone down at this pivotal rally in advance of the BC government announcing a new Coastal Old-Growth Plan. Meet at 11:30 at Centennial Square, March to Legislature for 12:00 noon for speeches.

Oct. 15th - Ever wonder why capitalism is destroying the planet? Check out "Capitalism and climate change" 6:30 pm in the SUB B025. Michelle Robidoux from Toronto will give a presentation on Marx and Ecology. She will be followed by a panel with local environmental activist Ken Wu and International Socialist Valerie Lannon.

Screening of What a Way To Go: Life at the End of Empire. A new documentary exploring climate change, ecological collapse, peak oil, population explosion, etc.

Oct. 15th - Film: What a Way To Go: Life at the End of Empire, 7:00pm
Camas Books and Infoshop, 2590 Quadra St. @ Kings Rd. The filmmakers will be in attendance to participate in discussion after the film. Admission is by suggested donation of $5-$10. If you'd like to know more about the film check out whatawaytogomovie.com

Oct. 16th - The Future of Food. David Strong Building C118 Doors open at 6:30PM, show starts at 7:15PM. Provides an overview of the key questions raised by consumers as they become aware of genetically modified foods. Cost is a sliding scale of $3 to $10. If you do not have the financial means, please come, and if you do, please donate.